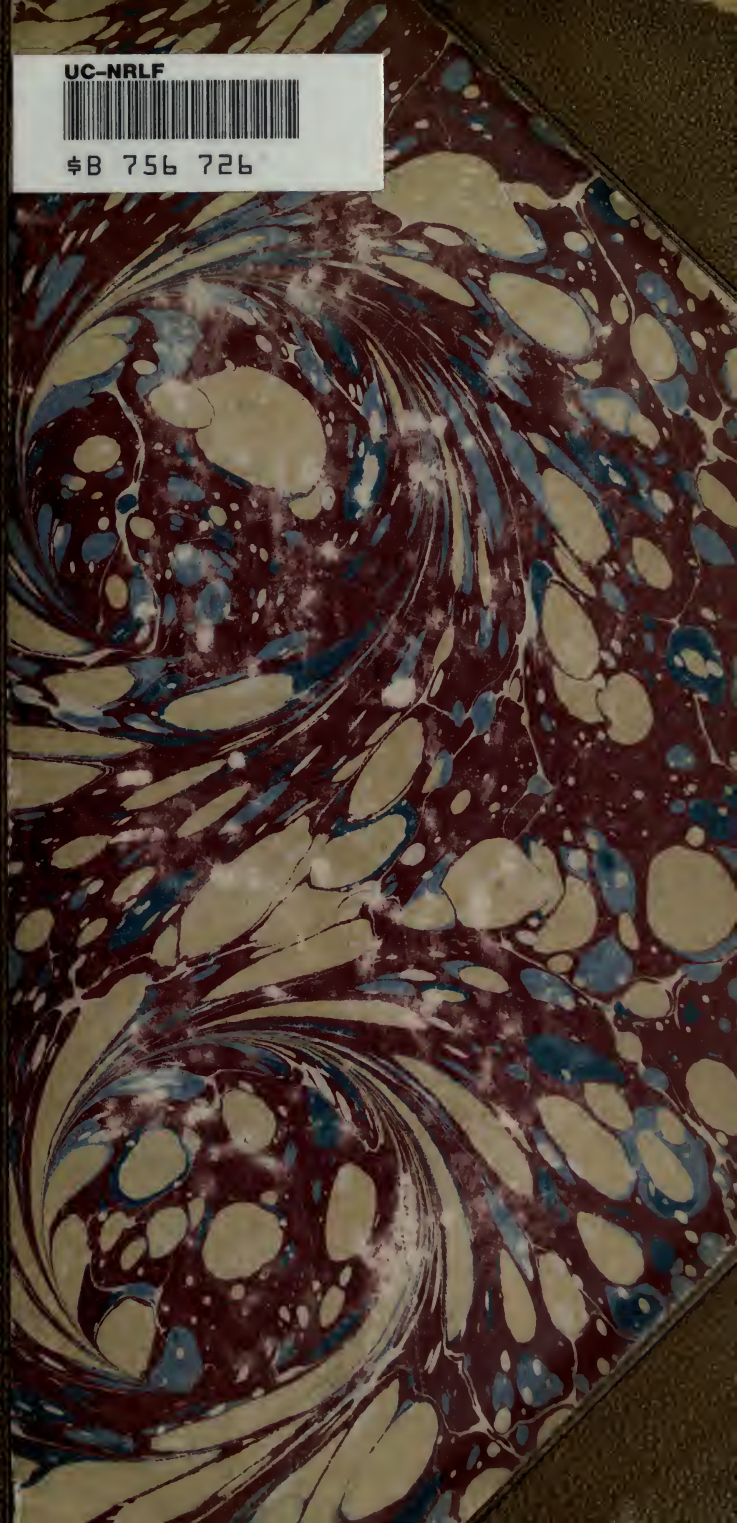


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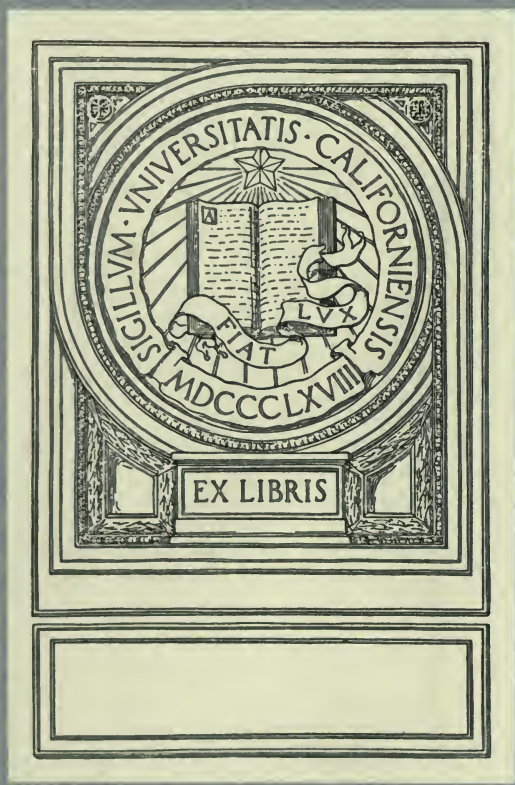
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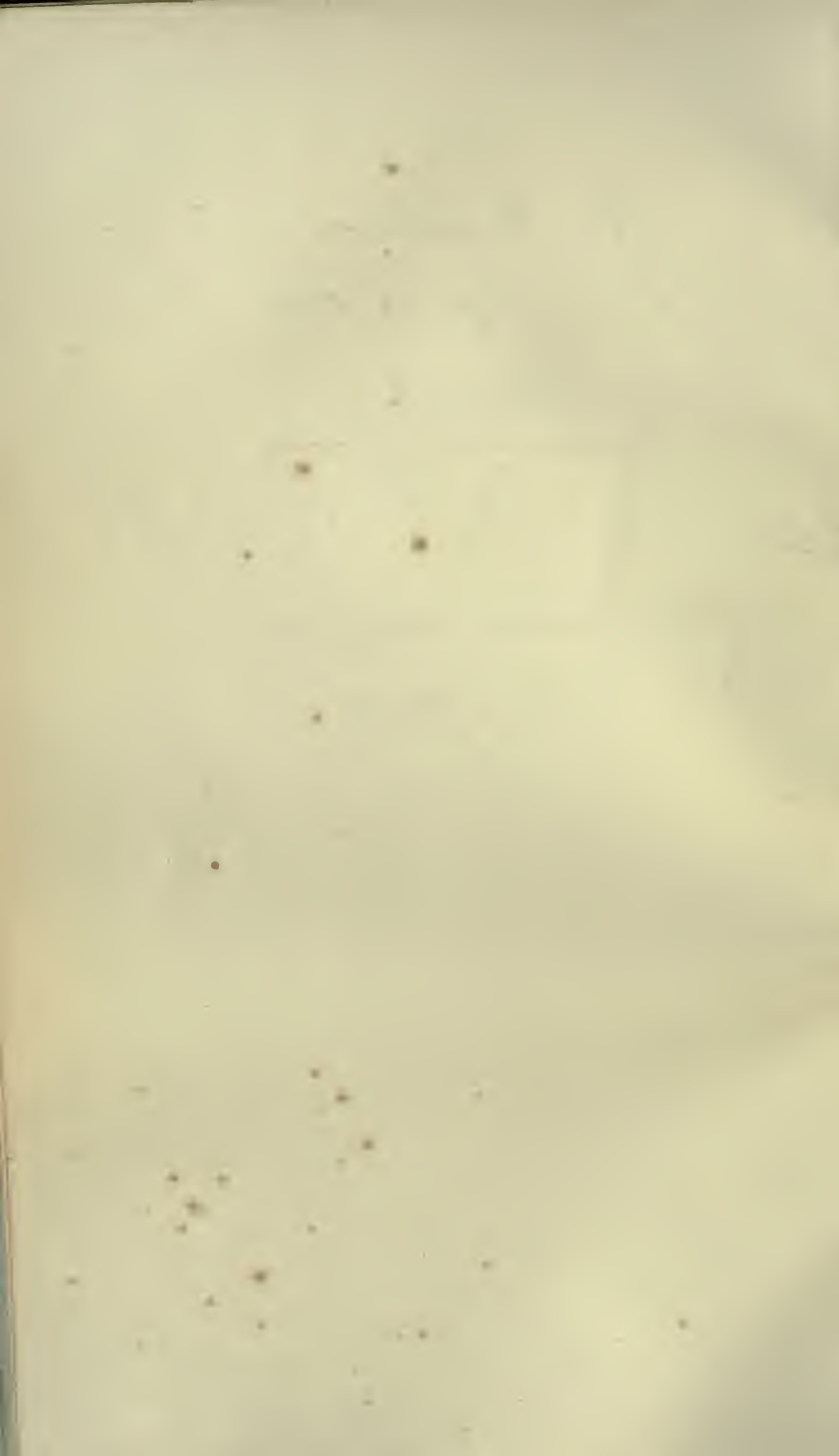
Sept. 8. 1891.

Norwich.

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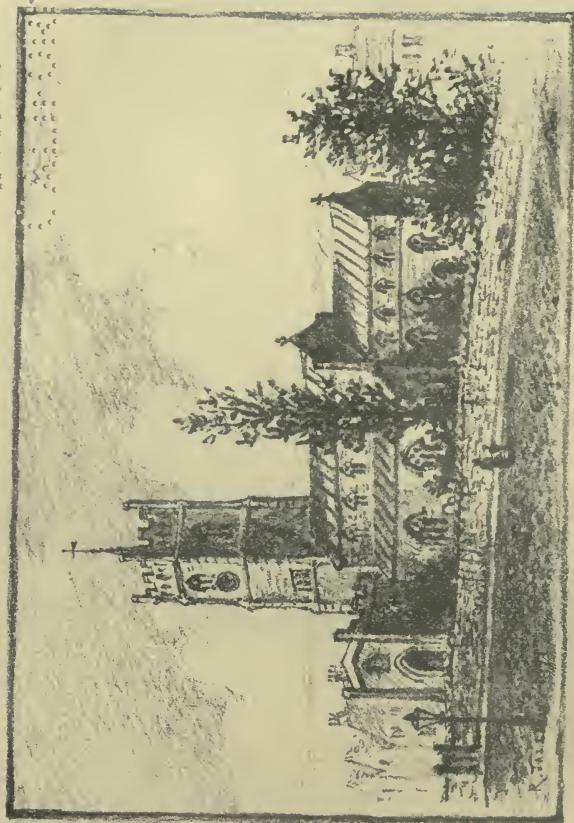
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# St. George Tombland :

PAST AND PRESENT.

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*A Contribution to the History of a Norwich Parish.*

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BY

EDWARD A. TILLET.

"

Norwich :

AGAS GOOSE, RAMPANT HORSE STREET.

1891.

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TO  
THE REV. HENRY PICKFORD, M.A.,  
OF CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, CANTAB.,  
(VICAR OF ST. GEORGE TOMBLAND),  
AND TO  
MY FELLOW-PARISHIONERS

THIS LITTLE WORK IS DEDICATED

BY  
EDWARD A. TILLET.

*Tombland,*

*May 11th, 1891.*

989509





## Preface.

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WHAT can there be in the history of a small parish in a large city? is a question which we can imagine suggests itself to the readers of our title page. Let us consider for one moment. The history of our country, of which, save for that of one or two dark periods, we are proud, is only the concentration of the record of myriads of events, very many of which have occurred in her parishes. Every parish throughout the United Kingdom must contribute more or less; and in searching out its story is unfolded details (some very minute) which tend at least to illustrate the byways branching off as it were from the great highway. Whether our little work does anything in this direction we leave it to our readers to judge.

It having been necessarily, to some extent, a compilation, we must here acknowledge our indebtedness to Blomefield's *History of Norwich*, Kirkpatrick's *Streets and Lanes of Norwich*, edited

by the Rev. W. Hudson, M.A., and W. T. Bensly, Esq., LL.D.; Palmer's *Perlustration of Great Yarmouth*, *The Proceedings of the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society*, L'Estrange's *Church Bells of Norfolk*, and other works.

We must now give our thanks to those who have most kindly helped us; to Mr. Frank Gray for the architectural description of the church and the plan with which he has generously furnished us; also to Mr. and Mrs. Tallack, the former for some valuable and interesting information, and the latter for the pleasing view of the church, which forms an ornament to the commencement of our work; to Mr. Churchwarden Gray for his general assistance; to Mr. Brett (Parish Clerk), for his courtesy at all times whilst making our researches; to Mr. T. B. Butler of the Cathedral Close, who has been intimately acquainted with Tombland for considerably more than half a century, for helping us to elucidate questions relative to the immediate past; and to Mr. A. E. Rump, of Rampant Horse Street, who has rendered us much practical assistance.





# St. George Tombland:

PAST AND PRESENT.

## ERRATA.

Page 45, line 17. *Add "street" after "Conesford."*

Page 47, line 4. *For "Rix" read "Nix."*



St. George being the patron saint, not only of all England, but of Norwich in particular, it is natural that two of our early city churches should be dedicated to him. The Turks, who pay him great respect, point out a well in the territory of the Druses near to which they state our saint slew the dragon which was hastening to devour the daughter of the King of Beyrout. One of the earliest records of this achievement is contained in a very ancient composition entitled "Horæ Beatae Virginis secundum usum Sarum," which was formerly sung in Salisbury Cathedral. Tradition says that St. George was born at Lydda, "in the land of the Philistines," and there Richard Cœur de Lion,

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# St. George Tombland:

PAST AND PRESENT.

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## CHAPTER I.

### General Description.

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**S**T. George being the patron saint, not only of all England, but of Norwich in particular, it is natural that two of our early city churches should be dedicated to him. The Turks, who pay him great respect, point out a well in the territory of the Druses near to which they state our saint slew the dragon which was hastening to devour the daughter of the King of Beyrout. One of the earliest records of this achievement is contained in a very ancient composition entitled "Horæ Beatæ Virginis secundum usum Sarum," which was formerly sung in Salisbury Cathedral. Tradition says that St. George was born at Lydda, "in the land of the Philistines," and there Richard Cœur de Lion,



built a noble church to his honour, some portions of which, rich in carving, still remain.—Porter's *Giant Cities of Bashan*, p. 188.

The parish of St. George Tombland is bounded on the north by those of St. Martin at Palace, SS. Simon and Jude, and St. Peter Hungate; on the south by St. Peter Permoungate; on the east by the Precincts of the Cathedral, St. Peter Permoungate, and St. Martin at Palace; and on the west by SS. Simon and Jude, St. Peter Hungate, and St. Michael at Plea. It is situate in the eastern portion of the city, and was formerly partly in Conisford Ward, and partly in that of East Wymer. It is now wholly in one ward, namely the First. Its population has varied from 722 in 1693 to 779 in 1881.

Though by no means a large parish it has absorbed those of St. Cuthbert, St. Mary the Less, and part of St. Mary in the Marsh, of which it has deprived the Cathedral authorities. Moreover, part of the Grey Friars' Monastery was added to it on its dissolution by Henry VIII., whose stern laws decreed that the Monasteries should be no more.

Tombland is surrounded by the parish to which it gives its name, but is not in its centre, as its situation is too north-easterly. What is the meaning of the word? Some conjecture a "land of tombs," and we have heard more than one old citizen say this is proved by the fact that there was somewhere upon it an old graveyard, and that a large number of human bones have from time to time been exhumed. Both these facts are true, for here stood the early church of St. Michael, with its graveyard, long before the foundation of our Cathedral; in fact this latter erection caused the fall of St. Michael, and it may rightly be concluded that the owner of every human bone dug up on Tombland



passed away before one stone of the Cathedral rose above the ground; that is, at a date before or shortly after the Norman Conquest.

Admitting the facts above given, we cannot arrive at the conclusion that it was a "land of tombs," for in Saxon or pre-Norman times few or no tombs were known in graveyards in England; it is even difficult to find an early gravestone or sepulchral memorial in our churchyards.

Our parochial surname has met with many changes, for a list of which we are mostly indebted to Kirkpatrick's work on the *Streets and Lanes of Norwich*, so admirably edited by the Rev. W. Hudson, M.A., Vicar of the adjacent parish of St. Peter Permoutergate, and W. T. Bensly, Esq., LL.D. The varieties which have come to our knowledge are Tombland, Tombelond, Thomelond, Tomlond, Tomland, Le Thomelond, de Tomelond, Le Tomlond, Tummelond, Tumlonde, Le Toomlond, Tumlond, Tomlonde, Tumlond, Tombleland (Registers) "at the gates" (Blomefield and Cotton), sixteen in all. After so many interesting words it may be asked what do they signify? This is not so easy to answer. Again referring to Kirkpatrick, the good old antiquary thought it might mean "Town land." It has been suggested that the name is derived from the Danish word "Tommer," which means empty or vacant land. If we remember rightly, that eminent archæologist, Mr. Walter Rye of London, has made another suggestion, that our Tombleland means sloping land. This is borne out by the fact that our church actually stands on sloping ground, and is described in the registers so late as 1626 and 1627 as St. George Tombleland. This view has been taken by many local antiquaries, and we adopt it.

That Tombland was the earliest centre of the growing burgh, that is before Norwich was a city, we learn from the lucid appendix (No. 3) by the Rev. W.

Hudson, to Kirkpatrick's work above alluded to, and there is every indication to shew that it was so. Here was the palace of the Earl and the richly-endowed church of St. Michael, of which more anon. In the immediate neighbourhood was the meeting-place of the men of the Hundred, as is evidenced by the name of the church of St. Michael de Motstow, now St. Michael at Plea, the site of which in Saxon times was probably on Tombland, which then doubtless had a much wider area than now. It is clear that to Tombland the Saxon streets of Conisford and Westwyck converged. Pottergate Street wended in the same direction as did Lower Newport (now St. Giles). Nedham or St. Stephen's Street could have never been planned with the intention of a route to the present Market Place, but passing over Hog or Orford Hill by the Back of the Inns the way deviates towards Tombland, which can be reached without turning a corner. Magdalen Street runs straight, not to the Market Place, but to Tombland, the ford of Fybrigge having to be crossed; other reasons are given by Mr. Hudson, but we have said sufficient to shew that Tombland was the centre of Norwich before the more modern Market Place was thought of.

Kirkpatrick describes "Tomland as a large piece of wast ground extending in length from north to south, which is broadest at the south end, narrow at the north end, and narrowest in the midst by reason of the houses which are built on the east side under the Precinct Wall of the Cathedral, but it is chiefly streightened (narrowed) there on the west side by the churchy<sup>d</sup> of St. George which runs very much eastward into Tomland (so as the East side of it is in a line with the houses lying next it northward unto Cook Row, [Wensum Street], and yet more by the row of houses w<sup>ch</sup> are built on y<sup>e</sup> East side of the Churchyard."

On Tombland, as before stated, formerly stood the church of St. Michael. It was near its centre, and was one of the oldest, if not the very oldest, church in the city. In making excavations in front of and in proximity to the houses on the eastern side of Tombland, about midway between the two Cathedral gateways, many years since, workmen came upon some foundations which could have been none other than those of this church.

Blomefield states that it had the largest burial-place in the city, and this is not unlikely, as by the numerous bones found it is clear that the churchyard extended as far as the south end of Tombland. The church was founded by the Earls of the East Angles before the Confessor's time, and was amply endowed by them. It was not parochial, but served as the chapel to their palace, which included the whole of the south end of Tombland and extended to the Castle Ditches. On the removal of the See from Thetford to Norwich Roger Bigot, Earl of the East Angles or Norfolk, granted St. Michael's Church and the Palace to Bishop Herbert de Lozinga (the founder of the Cathedral), who totally demolished it and erected a stone cross with the image of St. Michael on its summit on the spot where the church stood.

"On Tombland," says Kirkpatrick, "there was a cross which stood near the N.E. corner, which was taken away in 1487. Item paid 3/4 to Rob<sup>t</sup> Moors, Carpenter, for pulling down of the high Cross w<sup>ch</sup> stood on the void ground called Tomlond against y<sup>e</sup> Charnell" (now the Grammar School) "and toward the corner of the s<sup>d</sup> charnel called the North West corner, because decayed and in danger of falling through the Pageants of the Fraternity of St. George there made on account of their Procession."

"Another Cross of Stone stood near the So. West

corner of Tombland, Crux sup le Tomlond, 13 Rich. II. It was called the stumped crosse in the time of Edw. IV. And now near the So. E<sup>t</sup> corner stands a large Building of Brick erected for a Cistern into w<sup>ch</sup> the water is brought from the New Mills by force of the water engines there, and serves for supplying the citizens with water conveyed into their houses by pipes of wood and lead. Under the cistern are several vaulted cellars."

The *Norfolk and Norwich Remembrancer* tells us "That the Water House on Tombland was taken down and the present (1822) obelisk erected in June, 1786." This was in its turn removed, and the present granite structure put in its place.

As Tombland has a separate history of its own apart from that of the parish generally, we will, before taking a walk round, note a few interesting facts respecting it.







## CHAPTER II.

### Cleanings as to its History.



OMBLAND has undergone in past days many turbulent vicissitudes, strongly contrasting with its comparative quiet in our own times. Centuries ago the city authorities and the prior and monks of the monastery of the Holy Trinity were at constant variance. To wade through the account of these quarrels, unless one is interested in the subject, would be tedious, still one or two notes relative thereto will be given in the pages following.

Here in 1263 "Henry Turnecurt and Stephen de Walsham were killed on St. Philip and St. James's Day. Inquisition was made by the coroners and set forth in a certain schedule. Afterwards came Master Marc de Bunhale, Clerk, and Ralph Knict, with many others, threatening the coroners to cut them to pieces unless the schedule was given up; and then they took Roger the coroner and by force led him to his own house with swords and axes, until the said Roger took the same from his chest; and they then took him with the schedule to St. Peter of Mannecroft church, and there the aforesaid

Ralph tore away the schedule from the hands of Roger and bore it away, and before his companions, in the manner of fools, cut it into small pieces; and with much ado Roger the coroner escaped from their hands in great fear and tremor. The coroners say they cannot make inquisition by reason of the imminence of the war."

The disturbance referred to probably arose out of the dissensions between the king and the barons.—*Norw. Arch.* ii. 260; *Coroners' Rolls, Norw.*

On the 9th August, 1272, the city assaulted the monastery, but the Prior with armed men resisted by force. The citizens thereupon fired the great gates with wood and reeds, and amongst other warlike proceedings got upon the steeple of our church and threw fire with slings into what is now known as the Precincts. After a siege, during which the monastery buildings were for a great part set on fire and burnt, the citizens gained admission. The monastery and precincts were plundered of all the gold and silver holy vessels, &c., not consumed by the fire; many monks were killed, and the others, except two or three infirm ones, fled for their lives. It appears that the commotion arose at Tombland Fair (then and for long after kept on Tombland in the old churchyard of St. Michael's on Trinity Sunday), between the servants of the monastery and the citizens, some on each side being killed. The contention arose in reference to a dispute as to whether Tombland and some other places belonged to the city or to the prior and monks, a dispute which raged for centuries. The city was shortly afterwards laid under an interdict by a Bull of Pope Gregory X., and, as was usual in those days, the civic had to bow to the ecclesiastical authority, and sue the Pope for pardon. It is said that thirty-four of the offenders were dragged about the streets till they died, others carried to the gallows and there hanged, drawn,



and quartered, and their bodies afterwards burnt ; the woman who first set fire to the gates was burnt alive.

In about another decade a scene, though not of so tragic a nature, occurs. In 1285 (first week of Lent) one Walter Eghe or Eye was taken for stealing cloth from the house of Richard de la Ho, and for other thefts ; on the Wednesday following he was taken before the Bailiffs and the whole community of Norwich, and was condemned to be hung. He was hung accordingly, and appeared to be dead ; whereupon he was taken down from the gallows and carried in a coffin to St. George's church to be buried, when he was found to be living. He remained in the church for fifteen days, and was watched by the parishes of St. Peter of Hundegate, St. Mary the Less, St. Simon and St. Jude, and St. George, and then escaped from their custody. Judgment was given against the four parishes for his escape. After this he placed himself in the church of the Holy Trinity, and there remained until the king, at his suit, pardoned him.—*Norfolk Arch.*, ii. 275 ; *id.* vii. 264. The above illustrates the right of sanctuary as prevalent in those days ; also is an instance of that most rare occurrence, resuscitation after hanging.

In 1306, through the intervention of the king, an agreement, if such it may be called as it did not last long, was made between the convent and the city, some of the stipulations being that Tombland should be kept clear of all timber and everything laid on it, except at the fair (then held at Whitsuntide), so that it should not be used either for a market, or to lay timber on, or to make ropes on,\* except on Sunday! when victuals, fruit, &c., may be sold at the Priory (Cathedral) gates ; and Tombland was

\* In 1658 leave was given to "Raph Upcroft to twister ropes in Tomeland two dayes in a weeke in such a place as is not piudicall to stopp the wayes or peoples passages before ther dores for w<sup>ch</sup> he is to paye to the city xii<sup>d</sup> a quarter."

to be measured so that at the fair time the citizens had half and the monks the other half. The citizens chose first, reminding us of later days, when at election times the Orange and Purples had half the Market Place, and the Blue and Whites the other half, with two chains across (the sheriffs' "posse" between) to keep them from pugilism. The south end of Tombland, however, was to be as theretofore the place for the sale of horses and cattle, and we who live here at the present time are thankful it is not so now.

Here in 1428 was witnessed a sad scene. John Beverley, *alias* Battild, was then for religion's sake sent by the Bishop's Commissary to the Castle to be kept in irons, and after his trial he was to fast with bread and water only on the Friday and Saturday next thereafter, and on the Saturday to be fustigated (beaten with cudgels) from the Bishop's Palace round by Tombland, and thence round the Market Place, holding a wax candle of 2*d.* price, which he was afterwards to offer to the image of the Holy Trinity at the high altar of the Cathedral, and then to quit the diocese for ever.

In 1524 Cardinal Wolsey helped to arrange the unhappy differences between the city and convent, and in the latter part of King Henry the Eighth's time, he (the king) appears to have issued a proclamation that "during the said (Tombland) fayer to be holden from the rising of the sun on the Saturday next before the feast of Pentecost, till the Monday next after the feast of the Holy Trinity, all neat cattel and horses be bought and sold in the Castle Ditches and meadows there, and all sheep cattell in the streets of the citie as they have been accustomed, and all other chafery wares and merchandize at Tombland and in the Market, and if any man will sue by pleynt, &c., for any offence that shall happen to be done within the time of the said

fayer, let him keep his day at the Guildhall of this citie before the steward of the same fayr this same Saterdag at ten of the clock, and he shall be heard, God save the King." The fair, which in the memory of some living extended from Tombland to St. Martin at Palace Plain, we are informed gradually disappeared hence to the Castle Ditches.

On Shrove Sunday, 1547, was here solemnized with "great rejoicings" the coronation of the sixth Edward. The great guns were brought to Tombland and often discharged, the populace treated with "plenty of beer," and bonfires, and in a great procession was a pageant representing the young Edward, then ten years old, as King Solomon, followed by the representation of a mermaid carried by two men.

But Tombland was soon to see another sight, the clash of arms and stern war's alarms. The story of Kett's rebellion is too well known to need repeating here, and we have only to do with Tombland. Here Kett and his followers encamped whilst the Earl of Warwick (the royalist general) and his soldiers occupied the Market Place. The rebels appear to have gained some advantage through the ignorance of the royal troops as to the way about the city, and "three or four gentlemen" were slain, and buried at SS. Simon and Jude's. This aroused the ire of Warwick. Down came the "harquebusiers, young men of excellent courage and skill, who paid the rebels so home with a volley of shot, that they fled in a moment, leaving, it is said, one hundred and thirty dead; and divers of them creeping in the churchyards were taken and executed."

Kett, the reformer of too early a date, expiated his crime (?) on the summit of Norwich Castle, being drawn up alive from its base; and Warwick, afterwards Northumberland (father-in-law of Lady Jane Grey) a few years later was beheaded on Tower Hill, also for high treason.

In Tombland Church very shortly afterwards was collected £5 towards "ye gret charges ye cyte hade by reson of a comocion."

They were strict in those days, for in 1550 Thomas Paterson, living in the Grey Friars, did not attend divine service. He was accordingly ordered by the Court of Mayoralty "to kepe his pishe chirche at Saynt George of Tumlund, and to here his dyvyne service ther, &c., and to paye all his duetyes ther accordingly," and in the same year one Peter Lynacre, "standing on the grene by the blokke, agenst the dore of the said Lynacre" on Tomlund, and being heard to say that the new mayor was a popish knave, was brought before the same court.

Here on "Sondaie" the 1st Oct., 1553, was a "bonefyer," and "oon barell of best bere, and oon dozen brede, and six gallons of wyne to be drunken by the poore, to celebrate the coronation of the first Mary." In this reign Cicely (aged 32), wife of Edmund Ormes of St. Laurence, passed over Tombland on her way to the stake at Lollards' Pit. She, one of the noble army of martyrs, was burnt, having said she would pledge them (her predecessors in martyrdom, whose execution she witnessed) in the same cup they drank of. Her last words were, "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit rejoiceth in God my Saviour."

On the 8th October, 1586, is reported an instance of church brawling, for Thomas Pope, glover, was "compleyned upon (before the Court of Mayoralty) for that he hath abused Mr. Melles, minister of St. George at Tomblond, and delivered him written in parchment these words, 'Asinus movet aures aut asinus ad Kiram,' which thing Pope being present cannot deny, and further Mr. Melles sayth that when he told Pope that he wold compleyn to the magistrates, then Pope said if he did so he wold trounsse him before the Bishop of Canterbury; and Pope



being demanded who writ the said words he saith Peter Phillipps, Mr. Hopkyns' man, wrytt them. Also Mr. Melles informeth that Pope delivered the said writing in the church upon a Sabaoth day, saying, 'Here, asse, construe me the same': for which his demeanor the said Pope is comytted to prison untill he fynde sureties for his good behaviour."

On the 20th December in the same year hither came the Mayor and Aldermen in scarlet on horseback, with sword and gilt mace before them, and the Town Clerk with the Great Seal and Proclamation openly borne at his breast, and proclaimed Mary, late Queen of Scots, a traitor to Queen Elizabeth, our gracious Queen of this realm. On the 13th February following Mary was beheaded.

The 18th June, 1611, passed from a day of pleasure to a night of grief. It was the guild-day. A sumptuous pageant was prepared at the New Mayor's (Mr. Thos. Anguish's) Gate, now the entrance to Mr. Gray's residence and Mr. Allen's surgery, and there were fireworks in the evening, some of which exploding frightened the people so much that, they hurrying away, no less than thirty-three persons were trodden down and pressed to death. On which account, at a court held the 22nd of March following, it was ordered, in regard of that lamentable mishap that fell at the last gild by reason of fireworks, that no more be used on any feast or gild day, on penalty of £20.

There is "nothing new under the sun," and "history repeats itself." Looking back about two hundred and fifty years, it was voted to unite St. Simon's, St. George of Tombland, and St. Peter Hungate; a similar scheme was proposed and rejected in 1871; and another is before us at the present moment. In the stern days of Puritanism (1648) our church was honoured with the name of "the parish house," and the image of Christ upon it ordered to be taken down.

The coronation of Charles II. was celebrated on the

17th April, 1661, on Tombland, by the firing of the five brasse pieces onely, "twice before the feste in the morninge, and after the feste in the afternoone."

The 1st June, 1667 "(being Trinity Fayre day), Mr. Mayor, and such Justices and Aldermen as wer present, and Mr. Sher. Crow, the Maior, Justices, and Ald. in scarlet, and Mr. Sher. in voyolet, went into the fayre with ye sword, mace, and capp of mayntenance before Mr. Maior, according to the ancient customes."

On the 22nd May, 1675, it was ordered by the Court of Mayoralty, "That Mr. Maior and his Bretheren doe goe the procession of Trinity Fayer vpon Saterdaye next after the sermon at the Cathedrall."

In March, 1668, there was a curious collection made in the church "for ye releife of Susan Hunter, whoe is to goe to London to be touched for y<sup>e</sup> K<sup>s</sup> evill." *We* collected 26s. and 4½*d.*; St. Peter Mancroft, 18s.; and St. Andrew, 14s. 8*d.* In 1672 the differences between the Cathedral and city authorities as to the "soyle" of Tombland appear to have been finally arranged.

In the same year, the houses on Tombeland being "much shaken and damnified by the Fyreinge of the great gunns, it was ordered that for the future the Cannonier doe cause upon festivals the gunns to be drawne to and fyred on the Castle dykes." In 1733 Tombland was first paved, and in 1739, at the proclamation of the declaration of war against Spain (made in this city on Tombland), the sheriffs for the first time appeared in their new chains. 1766 saw riots, a baker's shop on Tombland was pillaged. For this and other like offences two persons were executed.

In thus approaching the end of the last century we will conclude by wishing that as our days are brighter than those of the past, so may the future be brighter still.





### CHAPTER III.

#### A Walk round the Parish.

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IN perambulating Tombland we cannot do better than follow Kirkpatrick, who commenced at the south-west corner, and tells us that the west part of the south end, now (c. 1720) the Poppingay Corner, was called Ratun Rowe (1288 and 1303), Ratune Rowe (1291), Ratonesrowe (1327 and 1328), Ratonerowe (1303 and 1337), afterwards the whole of the south side Raton rowe (1456), and afterwards Rotten Rowe. The palace of Earl Roger Bigod, which stood here, was part of the exchange between him and Bishop Herbert, who pulled it down.

The following gives such facts as we have been able to gather respecting the Poppingay,\* which stood at this south-west corner. This notorious and ancient inn or hostelry was situate on the south side of Tombland, at the corner of Conisford or King Street, and probably extended as far as the site of the present Inland Revenue

\* Mr. C. J. Palmer, in his *Perlustration of Great Yarmouth*, i. 326, referring to an Inn of the same name in that town, says "the Popinjay or Parrot is an old sign long out of fashion. It meant the figure of a bird decorated with gaudy feathers suspended from a pole, at which marksmen practised as described in *Old Mortality*."

Office, in the direction of the Ethelbert gate. Mr. T. B. Butler, late of the Norwich Probate Registry, informs me that he can remember the two westerly houses being one, before the late Mr. Woodrow, the predecessor of the present owners, rebuilt the premises. In 1330 it seems to have belonged to Roger Popinjay, in whose family it continued till Roger Popinjay (his grandson) turned the house into an inn, and in allusion to his own name gave it the sign of "the Popinjay" or Great Green Parrot, from which time it hath been a public-house to this day, it now (1742) being the Popinjay tavern, so says Blomefield (iv. 117). It does not follow as he states, that because it became Popinjay's Inn it then became a public-house, for lords, knights, and esquires in those days had their inns, which were their city houses ; portions of some of these, such as Middaies' Inn, the Norwich residence of Sir Walter Medyz, who lived in the time of Edward III., still remain. Blomefield (iii. 97) states that the site was granted by the Bailiffs and Commons in 1371 to *Robert Popinjay*, and was bounded on the east by a little lane called Seve-cote Row (this means the seven cottages row).

The Popinjays, or Popjays as they are sometimes called, appear to have been sturdy civilians, for in 1381 Robt. Popinjay was one of seven citizens chosen as advisers to the Bailiffs in quelling the rebellion of John the Litester (or dyer), which took place at that time in Norwich, and doubtless in connection with that of Wat Tyler in London. Between the years 1371 and 1394 Robt. Popinjay six times filled the office of bailiff of the city, and in 1376-7 was M.P. In 1474 John Baly who owned the Popyngeay was buried in the church of St. Mary the Less, and gave a silver cross with a Mary and a John of £10 value, and a candlestick and silver bason of ten marks, and two laton candlesticks of four marks,

and two wax tapers to put in them, weighing five pounds a taper, to burn about the herse in the church, and at Easter about the Sepulchre.

In 1502 "Norwich was byrned with fire at twey times to the Nounber of eighteen score howsholdys and mor"; but Blomefield states that 718 houses were burnt, and that, by what he had seen, the fire began near the Popinjay, which was burnt, and made the greatest havoc on the river side from Tombland through St. Andrew's, &c.

There are two deeds in the Guildhall, which not only confirm this account of the burning of the Popinjay, but also help us to the names of one or two other owners.

By one dated 1523, William Crane, at the instance of Henry Aleyn, clerk, executor of the will of Joan Belle, late of Norwich, widow, conveyed to John Aleyn of Norwich, bellfounder, John Holley, beerbrewer, and others, the tenement in St. Mary Little, formerly belonging to Robert Popyngay, which Agnes, widow of Thomas Drewe, had conveyed to the said William Crane in 1506.

By the other deed, dated 1528, the Mayor and Corporation confirmed to the said John Aleyn the tenement formerly of Robert Popingay, afterwards of John Hauk, then of John Bayly, and late of Robert Drewe, which the said Robert Popingay had by concession of the Bailiffs in 46th Edward III., and which is stated to have been burnt and "*in cineres penitus conversum*," *anglicé*, entirely converted into ashes.

The site of some of the buildings appears to have long remained in a state of dilapidation, unbuilt upon, for so late as 1553 is to be found in the Mayoralty Court Roll the register that Sir John Godsalue of London (son and heir of Thomas Godsalue of Norwich, Esq., deceased), and Elizabeth his wife, sold to Thomas King of Norwich, grocer, "*quinque tenementa simul jacen vocat Ratten*

Rowe apud Tomplonde unum gardinū olim edificatū vocat le flower de lyce nuper Prioris Ecclie Cathedralis Norwici & ejusd. loci conventus, ac totum illud capitale messuagium quondam edificatum cum gardin & p<sup>ti</sup>n suis quondam vocat le popyngey et quondam Roberti Popyngey simul scituat jacen & exist. in Norw<sup>o</sup> in paroch. S. Marie de Marisco S<sup>c</sup>i Cuthberti & S. Marie Parve et super le Tomplonde p<sup>d</sup>ict, inter murum & scitum domus Eccl<sup>e</sup> Cathedralis ibm et coēm viam vocat Sevenscote rowe ex pte orient. et regia viā ex pte occid. abutt. super le Tomplonde v<sup>s</sup>us aquil et super ortum sive gardin Thome Bemond \* olim cimiterium S<sup>c</sup>i Cuthberti versus austrum,” which being Anglicised reads: “five tenements lying together called Ratten Rowe at Tomplonde, one garden formerly a building called the Fleur-de-lys late of the Prior of the Cathedral Church of Norwich and the convent of the same place, and all that capital messuage formerly built with its garden and appurtenances, formerly called the Popyngey and formerly of Robert Popyngey, situate together lying and being in Norwich in the parishes of St. Mary of the Marsh, St. Cuthbert, and St. Mary the Little, and upon the Tomplonde aforesaid, between the wall and site of the house of the Cathedral Church there and a common way called Sevenscote Rowe on the part of the east, and the Queen’s Highway on the part of the west, abutting upon ‘le Tomplonde’ towards the north, and upon the orchard or garden of Thomas Bemond, formerly the churchyard of St<sup>t</sup> Cuthbert, towards the south.”

On the 8th May, 1563, “Robarte Gyrdeler made request to Mr. Mayor and the resydue of his brethren, that it wolde please them to lycence hym that he might set up a geyne at that house wheare he now dwellyth, the syngne of the popinjaye w<sup>th</sup> the fflower de luce, and

\* M.P. for Norwich from 14th to 27th Eliz.



that it may be sufferyd and lycensyd to be an In. This house consithering as well the honestie of the man as that the thing shalnot be preiudiciall nor hurtfull to eny good order heretofore made in this Worshipfull Cittie, have Lycensyd the sayd Robart Gyrdeler to set vpp the sayde Singnes of the popingay w<sup>th</sup> the flower de lewce when he shall thynke good." Robert Girdler had three children baptized and buried at St. George's between 1557 and 1570. In 1614 the Dean and Chapter appear to have had a tenant here named "Stefensun," and in 1620 we find Wm. Stephenson of Norwich, carrier, whose will is dated 30 January, 1620, and proved the 30th July following, giving his messuage in Tombland called "the Poppyngay" to Ellen his wife for life, and then to William, Richard, and Augustine, his sons, and Grace his daughter. One Henry, son of William Stephenson, was baptized here in 1587. A Matthew Stephenson was buried at Tombland in 1639, and one of that name wrote poems, published in 1673, about "the popingay," and other local subjects, &c. We give those relating to the Popinjay.

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UPON A DOG CALL'D FUDLE, TURNSPIT AT THE  
POPINJAY IN NORWICH.

Fudle, why so? some Fudle-cap sure came  
 Into the Room, and gave him his own name.  
 How should he catch a Fox? He'l turn his back  
 Upon Tobacco, Beer, French wine, or Sack.  
 A Bone his Jewel is; and he does scorn,  
 With Æsop's Cock, to wish a Barley-corn.  
 There's not a soberer Dog I know in Norwich,  
 What a pox, wou'd ye have him drunk with porridge?  
 This I confess, he goes a round, a round  
 A hundred times, and never touches ground;  
 And in the middle Region of the Aire,  
 He draws a Circle like a Conjuror.

With eagerness he still does forward tend  
 Like Sisyphus, whose Journey has no end.  
 He is the Soul (if Wood has such a thing),  
 And living Posie of a wooden Ring.  
 He is advanc'd above his Fellowes, yet  
 He does not for it the least Envy get.  
 He does above the Isle of Doggs commence,  
 And wheels th' inferiour Spic by influence.  
 This though befalls his more laborious Lot,  
 He is the Dog-star, and his Days are hot.  
 Yet, with this comfort there's no fear of burning,  
 Cause all this while th' *industrious wretch* is *turning*;  
 Then no more Fudle say. Give him no spurns,  
 But wreck your tene on one that never turns ;  
 And call him, if a proper Name he lack,  
 A Four-foot Hustler, or a Living Jack.

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UPON A COUNTRY PARSON AND HIS MAN, AND A  
PARISHIONER WHOSE NAME WAS IVORIE.

The Parson sued him 'cause he call'd him knave,  
 For which poor Ivory 7 and 6*d.* gave ;  
 And so at six and sevens they both drank on,  
 That, e're they went away, they were quite gone.  
 The seven and six pence so had Ivory stir'd,  
 He could not give the Parson a good word.  
 Nay, such a dose to his Temples gave,  
 That, if he wou'd, he cou'd not call him knave ;  
 And (what I cou'd have wish'd had not been true)  
 The liberal dose silenc'd the Parson too.  
 This hap, alas ! had never come to pass,  
 Had but the Priest concluded with his Glass ;  
 But Cvpper cupt so much, the Sack ran down  
 All the neglected Preface of his Gown.  
 So all be-butter'd too, as if (alack)  
 The Priest had in his Stomack mull'd the Sack.  
 His Man too drunk, w<sup>ch</sup> made him much the bolder  
 Yet got no Sack, save one upon his shoulder :  
 He reel'd about, and ran at every shelf,  
 And neither knew his Master, nor himself.



Ivory asleep fell down, and in the close,  
Did, for an Ivory, get, a scarlet Nose.  
They that before so great a noise did keep,  
Now slept, and in the rightest sense, Fox-sleep.  
The Popinjay one Fvddle had before,  
But when these three were there, then it had four.  
And while they slept secure, in came the Watch  
And does this pickel'd Congregation Catch.

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UPON THE VERTUOUS BROWN (I KNOW WHO) AT  
THE POPINJAY.

Lillies and Roses, let who will go sute ye,  
I'm for the lovely Brown, the lasting beauty ;  
Her cheeks are Roses, need no thorny fence,  
And there's no Lilly like her Innocence.  
Their blossoms are but slaves to every blast ;  
But she's the same when Spring and Autumn's past.  
Her May's Eternal ; She, when envious Time  
Shall be no more, Is then but in her Prime,  
She shall bid all these fading formes adieu,  
And Heaven and Earth shall for her sake be new.  
You see the outside of the Cabinet,  
But 'tis within her crowned graces set.  
Were you into an Angel but refin'd,  
You then might read the Mirrour of her mind ;  
Not but the luster of her lovelyer face,  
Need not, nay ought not to the best give place.  
Her thoughts are chaster than the Virgin snow ;  
Diana for a temple there might go.  
Arabian Odours have her bosome blest,  
The Phoenix there might come and find her Nest.  
Such, so all pure is her complexion known,  
Sweeter than Cinnamon, softer than Down.  
Nature in silence tells us to this brown,  
Not the World's eye has tan'd her, but her own ;  
Her sweet symmetrick looks that so controul,  
Are but the Mask and shadow of her Soul.  
Where all perfections to that height aspire,  
Women may envy, but Men must admire.

UPON A TOKEN DRUNK AT THE STAR, SENT ME BY HONEST  
THO. RIDLAND, AT THE POPINGAY IN NORWICH.

## 1.

A Token (Tom!) believ't 'twas kindly done ;  
It made us forthwith to Star Tavern run,  
To tast the Claret, from the Hogshead spun.

## 2.

We washt it down, and bravely, ask Frank Barton,  
With t'other, t'other, t'other, t'other quart on,  
We only wanted thee (Tom) and Jack Wharton.

## 3.

It was indeed a seasonable boon,  
Soon we concluded on't, and went as soon,  
And drank by *Star*-light all the afternoon.

## 4.

Thou hast thy mind in Silver to me broken,  
For such, who always have me fairly spoken,  
And nothing sent, I value not a Token.

## 5.

My Book I now do to the Press design,  
And take so well this kindness (Tom) of thine,  
As I'm in thy books, thou shalt be in mine.

## 6.

I this, amongst the special favours rank,  
And, both the Bearer and bestower thank,  
For thou art Free (Tom) and the Bearer Frank.

In 1658, one Wharton was the keeper of the same house and Edwin Bensley was the tapster there, as the following entry in the city books shows:—"7 August [1658], Thomas Mase, one of the Constables of North Conisford Warde, sayth vpon oath, vpon Lord's daye last was seaven night, he & his ptner went to the poppingiaye to see what company wer ther & one Edwyn Bensley, Tapster ther, said that when this informant & his ptner wer ther before he, the said Bensley sayde he had lost goods out of

his howse and that he did not know but that this informant & his partner might have them & said he hoped ther would come a time when they might answer for them. And he further sayth that Edmond Wharton, sonne of the keeper of the same house did give bad langwage, & sayde he would not goe w<sup>th</sup> such fellowes as this informant & his ptner was, & did strike this informant."

The next "mine host" we find, if we can judge of his strength by his Christian name, was a fit and proper one to deal with revellers and brawlers. He was Hercules Foster. We first meet with him in the register of the baptism of a son, "Augustin y<sup>e</sup> son of 'Harklos & Elezebeth Foster,' bapt. from the popinjay y<sup>e</sup> 17 of Desember, 1665," but it is doubtful whether he occupied the whole of the original inn, as about 1671 "Joseph Woolye, his wyffe, and child lived in part of the houses called Rotten Row, now the popinjay, in part of y<sup>e</sup> house late Mr. Gary lived in."

Foster's name more than once occurs in the registers between this and the date of his death in 1689; but he was only an occupier, as in 1670 the Popinjay was transferred from "Weaver to Gilman" (Mayoralty Court Books). A *small* slab, formerly in the south aisle, but now in the north porch, still remains to the memory of Hercules.

In 1739 the house was transferred from Gilman to Howman (see also Mayoralty Court Books), and in 1762 we learn from the same source that Charles Fearman of Norwich, grocer, and Anne his wife and George Maltby of the same place, merchant, and Mary his wife sold to William Riches of Norwich, merchant, "All that cap<sup>l</sup> messuage called the Popinjay Inn or Tavern, formerly in three messuages and in the possession of Hercules Foster and Thomas Gibbs, gent.; afterwards in the use of Thomas Launder, James Nasmith, and Isaac Collins;

after that in the possession of Jacob Hatt, wine merchant, and late of John Wright, between the messuage formerly built by Sir William Denny, Knt., on the east; and the King's Highway on the west; the garden of Laurence Wood, gent., since of Thos. Allen, gent., sometime part of the Priory of Holy Trinity, and formerly of Richard Chamberlain, Esq., after of Thomas Warkhouse, Esq., and now of Charles Buckle, Esq. on the south; and the place called Tombland on the north." Mr. Palmer, in his *Perlustration of Yarmouth*, states that the last tenant was named Copley, and was said to have been the great grandfather of Lord Chancellor Lyndhurst. The Poppingay is not mentioned amongst the Inns or Taverns in the parish rated in 1775, and must therefore have disappeared between 1762 and that date.

The two most westerly houses on the south side of Tombland, which occupied what we consider the site of the Popinjay, were in 1783 the residences of John Slany, Esq. (at the corner) and James Alric, Esq., "a native of Geneva," who acquired a fortune while connected with Messrs. Harveys, manufacturers, of Norwich. He married Mary, daughter of John Morris of Yarmouth, and so became uncle to the celebrated Dr. Sayers of the Close, whose literary abilities were much appreciated in the early part of this century.

We will here give a curious extract from the Mayoralty Court Books relating to a house in Ratton Rowe:—"23 August, 36 H<sup>y</sup> VIII., John Coup beyng a wetcheman w<sup>t</sup> otherz seieth that on fryday at nyght laste paste aboute x of the klok ented in the house of oone thakker dwelling atte rattonrowe, and ther founde M' swetyng, Echerd, miller of Trowse, and John Glover, sitting ther togeder at supper, & told them that it was at that tyme of nyght tyme to kepe goode rule, & then M' Swetyng seyde agen here ys non but good rule kept, & then the seid wetcheman seid

agen ther is glover in yo<sup>r</sup> compenye. Jt wer more mete for hym to be in bed than ther at that tyme, for he will disgrayes all the strete, & also that it had been more mete for the seid miller to have been in his bedd than ther, but if the goodeman of the house wold undertake for hym that he shal be forthecomyng tomorrow at vij of the clok before M' mayer then J have no more to say, but god be w<sup>t</sup> you."

"At the south-east corner of Tombland, between a messuage formerly called Stonhall and the Precinct Wall, a lane runs south, passing the east end of the late St. Cuthbert's churchyard to the wall of the Grey Friars' precinct, whence it turns east unto St. Vedast's or St. Faith's Lane. This little lane was called Sevecote rowe (17th and 19th Edw. I., 46th Edw. III., 19th Hen. VIII.) Amerc. Lete de Wymer (19th Edw. I.) Robto. atte Brede quia coartavit viam regiam super Sevecote rowe, Ita qd. multum nocet equitantibus, ijs." Anglicised, Of Robert atte Brede, because he blocked up the royal way at Sevecote rowe so that it was very dangerous to horsemen, two shillings. "Amerc. Lete (49th Edw. III.), Robtus Papungay in tantum conculcavit & artavit regiam viam a Porta Prioratus usq. ad Portam Minorꝝ cum finis suis & fœditatibus & nullus valet ibi transire, i marc;" which being Anglicised reads, Robert Papungay contracted and blocked up the royal way from the Priory gate to the gate of the (Friars) Minors, with his muck and dung to such an extent that no one could pass there, one mark. "Johes del Fermerie fecit sibi juxit, 12d.," &c. John de Fermerie did similarly adjoining, twelve pence. Kirkpatrick thinks this lane is identical with that called in 8th Edw. IV. St. Cuthbert's Lane.

At an assembly, 13th June, 14th Eliz., it was agreed that Robt. Gyrdele (who was the landlord of the Poppingay)



should have a lease for twenty-one years of a lane called St. Fast's Lane, "that leadeth from the Ambry Grene gate (the Ethelbert Gate) of Christ's Church (the green inside towards the south was called the Almonry Grene) untill a Bridge, ageynst y<sup>e</sup> Grownde of the Este parte of y<sup>e</sup> late Graye Fryers, paying 6s. 8d. p an<sup>m</sup>, and he to make the gates and close the same at eyther ende, reserving nevertheless to everi man egress and regress to ther grounds y<sup>t</sup> open into the same lane." The lane was granted to Gyrdeler for herbage. At that time and long afterwards, until the construction of Foundry Bridge in 1810, it was scarcely used as a public thoroughfare. "Now the east part of the messuage which stands in the place of the antient stone hall before mentioned, is built over the lane and joins the wall of the Cathedral Close, but a sufficient large gate (way) is left and high enough for carts laden with hay, straw, &c., to pass under into the lane. License was granted on that condition to Hen. Bagotte, M.D.\* (1st Hen. VIII.) to build a garet over it." For the last two paragraphs we are mainly indebted to Kirkpatrick.

In 1564 St. Mary in the Marsh was desecrated, and Rotten Row united to St. George Tombland.

As before stated the ground on the east side next to the Cathedral precincts has been leasehold of the city for many years, and as early as 1541 one "Whyttyll" received a payment of 6d. from the City Chamberlain for "settyng marbyll stonys" under the College Wall at Tombland, meaning the wall of the Close. The house now occupied by F. O. Taylor, Esq., which has been recently handsomely renovated, was for many years in the last and present centuries the residence of Robert Marsh, of the firm of Marsh and Co., the London

\* Sir Wm. Denny, Knt., who was buried in the Cathedral in 1642, erected a house on the site of the present Cambridge House.



carriers, whose premises extended to the Ethelbert Gate. From hence those of our ancestors of the period, whose business or pleasure called them to the great metropolis, and who could not afford a coach fare, started on their long and tedious journey, and made their first stoppage for refreshments about a hundred yards from the starting place (we are told), at the sign of "The Compasses," an old fashioned tavern, a few years ago replaced on the widening of King Street by the modern building which now occupies its site.

Quoting from "Palmer's *Perlustration*," some idea of the extent of the business of this firm may be gathered from the fact that in 1803, when an invasion was expected, they offered to furnish government with one hundred horses, twelve broad-wheeled waggons with twenty-four men to guide and guard the same, twenty-four flat-bottomed boats with the men and horses usually employed therewith, four smiths with travelling forge, two wheelwrights and two collar makers, to be employed wherever their services might be required at an hour's notice.

Here on this side of Tombland are other handsome residences, the present occupiers being J. Flatt and J. A. Poock, Esqs., and Mrs. Wilson, widow of the late George Wilson, Esq., for many years a well-known and respected inhabitant of the parish.

In 1783 the houses on the sites of the three last-mentioned were respectively occupied by John Lewis, gent., supervisor of excise; Charles Maltby, surgeon; and mine host John Taylor, of "The Black Horse," which sign was not transferred to Wensum Street for many years afterwards. Dr. John Clarke, Dean of Sarum, and minister here for upwards of forty years, 1714-54, lived in the centre house. Beyond these and next to the Erpingham Gateway on the south side,

is now a small garden enclosed by an iron palisading. Here stood the house of the late Mr. Emmanuel Cooper, for many years an eminent surgeon in the city. His mausoleum is well known to all who are in the habit of visiting our Rosary cemetery. His house—an old-fashioned one with a rounded portico—was built in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and demolished about twenty years ago. It was occupied by surgeons continuously from its erection to its removal. Progressing northward and passing the gateway (the history of which belongs to the Cathedral) and another small enclosed garden, we arrive at the Parish Pump.

A description of our parish would not be complete unless it included some notice of that generally uninteresting, but in former times most necessary fixture, the "Parish Pump." The first mention we find of it is in the Churchwardens' Accounts. The entry is as follows:—"1777, May 6. At a Vestry Meeting agreed that the Pump upon the plain of this parish shall be taken down and repaired, and placed, with the Dean and Chapter's leave, against the wall adjoining to the precinct of the Cathedral, the whole to be done by a private voluntary subscription and not by a public rate." How long it had then been in existence we cannot say, but Kirkpatrick, writing about 1720, does not allude to it, though he mentions "the Cistern" at the south end. The Pump was and is at the north end.

In 1816 or 1817 the Pump was repaired at the cost of £9. os. 3*d*. "Joshua Cushings' bill (stone mason's work), repairing pump against the free school £9. os. 3*d*."\* The workmen were not however satisfied with the water, which

\* Mr. W. P. Hughes of this city tells me he can remember the pump being enclosed by stonework, nothing but the handle and spout being visible ; in fact, he remembers as a boy climbing upon the top of the flint work, which adjoined the Precinct wall.

the late Mr. E. Cooper affirmed till his death was the very best in Norwich, and would drink no other when at his home, just alluded to. They (the workmen) evidently desired something stronger, for we find another entry, "1817, Jan<sup>y</sup> 14, Allow<sup>ce</sup> of Beer while Repairing Pump 14s." In 1854 it was again put in order. Here ends such information as we can glean respecting the aforesaid pump.

Leaving the Pump and crossing the road, we will step for a minute down the street called Palace Street, where, on its north side, is Pig Lane. This lane was from the 16th Ed. I. to 9th Henry V., known as Normannes Lane, which name it had from one Robert Norman, who, in Henry III.'s time, had a messuage on the west side of it. It also appears to have borne the names during some portions of the time of Harpelees Lane (Rich. de Harpelee, temp. Rich. II.), and Hornynge's Lane, from Will. de Hornyng, clerk, or a bailiff of that name; and in 1390 and 2nd Henry V. it was called "Normannes Lane, alias dict. Hornynges Lane." Then, in 1480, it was called Wateryng Lane, as it led to a place for watering horses in the river. Kirkpatrick concludes by saying "Now the lane is called the Piggs Lane, and was so called 14th Car. I., yet not from the sign of Three Piggs, which has been there lately hung out at an alehouse, but from Henry Pigge, a noted man, one of the Chief Constables of East Wymer Ward in 1513, whose dwelling-house was on the east side next the street." His wife, Margaret, died, and was buried at St. George's in 1541. The entry immediately preceding in the register was that of one Robert Badding, gent., the name given to Baddings Lane, lower down the same street, in St. Martin at Palace.

Returning, we come to the premises of Mr. F. W. Blomfield, a name long connected with the parish; and

then to the north side of Tombland, and so to the house of Samuel Browne, Esq. Here, in 1595, or thereabouts, lived Henry Gallyard, whilom sheriff, who had a controversy with his neighbour, Thomas Anguish, whilom mayor, who "goeth about to make lights in a new house adjoining the house of the said Gallyard." The Mayor and others were requested to arrange matters before the end of the month, and probably the matter was arranged, as no further allusion to it occurs in the mayoralty court books.

In later years, Paul Colombine, D.D., here resided, and it was at one time an Independent chapel, under the ministrations of the Rev. Thomas Scott. It did not, however, remain such many years. The writer remembers, when quite a child, going with his nursemaid to service there. The next house, now the residence of Joseph Allen, Esq., M.R.C.S., was in 1617 and previously occupied by Thomas Anguish. An old spandrel to an outer door still retains the initials of him and his wife. Here, in that year, he kept his mayoralty; a sad calamity occurring on the guild night (see page 13). In this house about 1830, lived Henry Carter, one of the surgeons to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, and subsequently Dr. Dove. Mr. Carter's portrait, through the kindness of Mr. Charles Williams, hangs in the board-room there, as does (through the like courtesy) that of Edward Colman, a former surgeon to the same institution, who lived, in 1802, in the adjoining and corner house, now the residence of Mr. Churchwarden Gray. We think it not unlikely that this house was also a portion of Anguish's mansion. Though refaced with red brick, some part of it is very old, and the walls of considerable thickness.

We now come to Wensum Street, a small portion of which, formerly known as Cook Rowe (which extended



to Magdalen Gates) is situate in our parish. In Henry III.'s time it was the Vicus Cocorum, or the street of the cooks, and in Edward III.'s time our part was called "Le Cookrowe's ende." The cooks do not appear to have always been so good as they ought, for in 16th Edward I. it was presented that all the cooks and pastry cooks did heat their pasties and flesh and fish after the second and third day, and they were fined, some 1s. and some 2s.; and in the 27th of the same reign twenty-seven cooks were fined 3s. each for a like offence.

On the eastern side of the street the famous old hostelry known as "The Maid's Head," situate in SS. Simon and Jude, has very recently by enlargement (for garden, greenhouse, and extra bed-rooms) come within the bounds of our parish. The old boundary iron upon the south wall of the hotel, notwithstanding the alteration, is still to be seen. Mr. Rye writes us, "In digging foundations, very large and deep flint and rubble walls were found (over 10 ft. below present level), and in excavations several "greybeards," old pottery, &c. There is little doubt that the walls were part of the early Bishop's Palace (there is a Norman capital in the cellars of the Maid's Head) the ground is all "made" ground for many feet down, and we got to the old bed of the river still wet and oozy."

On the other side is the sign of "The Black Horse" (formerly "The Dyers' Arms"), transferred here when the old inn of that name above mentioned was pulled down. Mine host John Spinks is, we believe, the only citizen who now appears in our city streets in an old-fashioned wig. He is one of the drivers of the carriages of Her Majesty's Judges.

Southward is Waggon and Horses Lane, situate at the north-west corner of Tombland, where it meets Wensum

Street. It first ascends and then descends to a triangular piece of ground adjacent to Elm Hill, where, as in Kirkpatrick's day, is a pump and an elm tree. This lane in 13th Edw. II. and 40th Edw. III. was called Hundegate, the same name as the Upper Street (now Prince's Street). In 12th Hen. VII., Prynce Inne Lane, and 24th Hen. VII., Prinse In Lane. The Lane by the Elme in the 25th Eliz., and circa 1720 the Elm Lane. At an assembly in 25th Eliz. it was agreed that the Lane by the Elm, on the back side of Aug<sup>e</sup> Sotherton's house should have at each end a gate to shut in y<sup>e</sup> night and to set open in the daytime, and that all such persons as have back doors into y<sup>e</sup> same lane should at their charges set up the said gates, and to keep them in reparation; but, according to Kirkpatrick, they did not long do so.

Passing the Waggon and Horses Lane we arrive at the inn from which it takes its present name. This old-fashioned house was formerly the property of the Beecrofts, who were London carriers (one of them was warned to be careful at the time of the plague), and the predecessors of Messrs. Marsh and Nasmith. This is now the quarters for several country carriers.

Progressing we reach an old city house, the frontage of which shews it to have been one of no small importance. Blomefield says that it was commonly called "Samson and Hercules," the portico being supported by two large figures of those heroes in wood, the one holding his club, the other the jaw-bone of an ass. This, it is said, was formerly owned by Sir John Fastolf, Knt.; after that by the Countess of Lincoln,<sup>1</sup> and in Hen. VII.'s time by Elizabeth, Duchess of Suffolk. In Stuart times it appears to have been occupied by the Jays, staunch royalists, Here early in the present century lived the Rand family,

<sup>1</sup> See *Mayoralty Court Book*, 29th Jan., 1532.



and coming down to our times, the entrance led into a large paved courtyard, to the end of which, facing the gateway, had been removed the massive figures that to the childish imagination gave a hideous fascination, much relieved when distance lent enchantment to the view. They still remain, but in a different position. The square paved court and one of the three houses that faced the entry have been removed, and the vacant ground was covered in by the late firm of Pratt and Hancock, wholesale grocers. The premises passed into the hands of Mr. Cubitt, the well-known modern and antique furniture broker. Next door is another old noted and interesting city house, now in the occupation of the Messrs. Palmer, who there carry on a business similar to that of Mr. Cubitt, and also adapted to the character of the premises. About half a century ago this was a butcher's shop, a *curious* change indeed. The corbel shield at the north side of the entrance to the church alley shews the Mercer's arms, impaling a merchant's mark, that of Augustine Steward, thrice mayor of Norwich, M.P. in 1542, a very loyal citizen throughout the time of Kett's rebellion, being then deputy mayor. He was a benefactor to and a hard worker for our city, especially in obtaining from the king St. Andrew's Hall for the citizens. It is singular to note the sturdy oaken leaves on which the south-west corner of this quaint old house rests, which in its turn is supported by the churchyard wall. Steward's residence probably extended some way in the rear, along the north side of the churchyard.

Of the block of houses standing between the east end of the churchyard and Tombland, we have but little to say, save that we believe it is tenanted by as honest and respectable a body of tradesmen as are to be found in the city. The northernmost house is charged with

the payment of the annual rent-charge, which every Sunday produces the bread given away after morning service to the poor under the will of John Symonds, who died in 1629.

Turning the south-east corner of this block we approach the east end of the churchyard, but before doing so reach the private door of the tavern occupied by Mrs. Thurlow, and belonging to Messrs. Bullard and Sons, brewers, who erected the substantial building standing here. The old house was an upholsterer's shop, and previous to that occupied by Mr. Jas. Steward, tailor and Town Councillor. The superstructure of the doorway above alluded to is not so high as the rest of the building, and when Cleer published his plan of Norwich in 1680 there was a passage through at the east end of the churchyard, the greater portion of which passage still remains. Some part of this block is copyhold of the manor of Tolthorpe-cum-Felthorpe.

We now come to the church and churchyard, of which more anon, and leaving these for the present we pass on and enter what is now termed Prince's Street, from Prince's Inn here formerly situate. The ancient name of this street was Hundegate, as also was that of the lower lane (Waggon and Horses Lane). The meaning of Hundegate has been by some considered the way of the hounds, for in this district hunting bishops of old kept their hounds; and by others the way of the hundred, pointing to the direction where, in Saxon times our forefathers assembled and held the hundred court. In the county the old name of hundred survives, but it has long since disappeared in connection with our civic government.

From this street in early times a lane ran north through the west end of St. George's churchyard into the Back Lane (Waggon and Horses Lane). It is

mentioned as a Cõmon Lane, 13th Edw. I. But in the 18th Edw. I. it is called the ground of Will<sup>m</sup> de Depe, w<sup>ch</sup> was a Cõmon Lane, and in 34th Edw. I. the ground of Adam de Depe, Taverner, w<sup>ch</sup> sometime was Cõmon Lane.—*Kirkpatrick*.

At the south-west corner of the church alley, embracing the residence of R. R. Cremer, Esq., and that of Mr. R. Brett, which were evidently formerly one house, was a tavern called "The Horse and Groom." We first meet with it in 1784 and four years afterwards 6s. 1d. was paid by the churchwardens "for repairing windows at 'Horse and Groom,' broken in doing repairs to the Church." This probably was the site of "The White Horse" of earlier times, for an interesting reference to which see Chap. VII.

The lane running northward further up Prince's Street, having the site of Prince's Inn on its east side, was in 1324 called "Cõmunis venella." In 1394, licence was granted to the Dean and Chapter of the College in the Fields to shut up the said lane with two gates; afterwards in 2nd Henry V. "the Maior, Sheriffs, and Comonalty of Norwich, granted to Mr. Ralph Gunton, Clerk, Notary Publick, the s<sup>d</sup> cõmon Lane lying between the Tenement called Le Prince Inn east, and the Tenement of the s<sup>d</sup> Ralph W., and abutting on the King's Way S., and on a Cõmon Lane N., w<sup>ch</sup> said Lane lies open, and is incumbered with dunghills, to the great Nuisance of the neighbours, &c., and is not, nor has not been for a long time, a cõmon passage, so that it is for the Benefit of the city that the same should be inclosed, because of the lying in wait of malefactors there in the night season: to have and to hold, &c., the same paying yearly 1d., but he (Gunton) to maintain at each end of the said lane a door, to be opened only in time of necessity, as in case of fire,

or to repair the adjacent houses.”—Kirkpatrick’s *Streets and Lanes*.

Probably, the piece of old wood carving, reading “Princes In” (not in *situ*), over the entrance to a yard in King Street, St. Etheldred, adjacent to the sign of “The Ship,” was removed from here.

Passing on, we reach two red-bricked houses of the last century, upon the furthestmost of which remains the old irons, dated respectively 1777 and 1828, which shew that we have come to our boundary in this direction. These houses are now the property of Mr. A. J. Lacey, Architect and Diocesan Surveyor, a fellow parishioner. He tells us that on removing the floor of the front room of the westerly house for the purpose of alterations in 1874, there was found about a foot beneath the surface a skeleton in a doubled-up posture, and with it a bone draughtman, of the type used by the early Norsemen. The skull and draughtman were exhibited to the Archæological Society at the time. The latter is now in the possession of Mr. Lacey.

Referring to the doubled-up position of the skeleton, we cannot do better than quote from Greenwell and Rolleston’s *British Barrows*, Oxford, 1877, p. 23: “The position was not due to the requirements of space, but originated in some settled principle, the meaning and purpose of which it may be said we have not the means of fully understanding, though I (Mr. Greenwell) think a satisfactory explanation can be given. This manner of disposing of the body has been so common and so widely diffused that it cannot be accidental. It scarcely seems to suggest itself as a natural position, and it must certainly have required, in many cases, very considerable force to bring the limbs into the required form.” After giving various views upon the subject the writer says, “A more simple and at the same time a more probable explanation of



this custom has been offered, which cannot be considered an unnatural or unlikely one. Where the sleeping place was not well protected against the cold, and when covering for the body at night was scanty and limited, the contracted position was that which was best adapted to afford warmth and comfort. What was more natural than that the body should be interred in the same posture in which the person was accustomed to rest in sleep, and in which, in many cases, he probably may have died. I have learnt on good authority that the greater number of persons die in a more or less contracted position, and with the hands turned towards the chest or head."

Crossing the street, on this side our boundary extends a little further, and returning towards Tombland we note "The Cooper's Arms." There dwells John Hewitt, a resident nearly thirty years, a republican conservative. What a character! but still true. He was one of the chartists who walked in procession to Kennington Common in 1848. Adjacent is a modern structure, originally erected as a school-room to Prince's Street Chapel; it is still used for religious and educational purposes. Passing nearer Tombland we arrive at the residence of a gentleman who is the *noisiest* man in the city, the respected Bellman, Mr. Childerhouse.

In the large house, next but one from the southern entrance to the churchyard, now the residence of E. P. Simpson, Esq. (a descendant in the maternal line of the ancient county family of Palgrave, which name often occurs in our registers), lived Dr. Green, Vicar from 1756 to 1786. Previously to Mr. Simpson, who with his father, the late G. E. Simpson, Esq., have resided here for about twenty-six years, the house was occupied by Mr. Wm. Newton, land agent. In this house about 1838 lodged a Miss Lubbock, who broken-hearted, being



disappointed in love, was a well-known figure constantly watching at a window for the return of the lover who never again appeared.

We pass the house now occupied by Mr. Councillor Baldry, and reach the Central Temperance Hotel, for many years the private residence of Roger Kerrison, Esq., formerly a well-known solicitor of Norwich, and a Deputy Lieutenant for the County.

We next come to the houses which stand upon the northern and eastern portion of the churchyard of St. Mary the Less, better known as "the French Church"; of the churchyard itself we propose to treat when writing of the church and its various vicissitudes. Blomefield says that the tenement joining to the north side is called the Star Ground, and sometime belonged to the Aldermen and Brethren of St. George's Guild: the next house was "the Lamb," and was used as their meeting-house till 1550, when the fraternity granted the Lambe and the Stere with other property not connected with our parish to the "house of the poor peopull called Goddes House" (the Great Hospital).

Early in the century a large number of silver coins of William III., which had apparently never been in circulation, were found beneath a floor in the corner house abutting on Tombland east and Queen Street south. It is supposed they had been stolen from the local mint, which for about two years was located in St. Andrew's Hall. These last-named premises, now the wholesale tobacconist's establishment of Messrs. Adcock and Denham, were for many years a grocer's shop: the names of Balderstone, Ivory, and Springall occur as carrying on that trade at this corner.

Continuing our walk we wend our way up Queen Street, and the first object of interest which calls for notice is the steeple of a church (the narrow entrance to

which is enclosed by an iron palisaded gateway); this is all that is visible to the outside public of what may be described as one of the most historic of our small parish churches. It, in early times, bore the name of *St. Mary the Less*, and though it was little St. Mary, the old church has withstood many a change to which other larger, and, in their day, more important churches have succumbed. To give anything like a complete history of it would fill our book; a few notes must therefore suffice.

This church has evidently undergone many merciless alterations since its foundation. It consists of chancel, nave, and tower at the west end; one of the buttresses of which is actually in the offices of Mr. Edward Boardman, the well-known architect. The nave shows marks of the early English period, and is entered by a south porch with stoup and parvise. The square tower, containing octagonal font, opens into the nave by a lofty narrow arch. The chancel, bereft of its arch, but retaining an ancient roof, exhibits windows of Decorated and Perpendicular styles.

The church belonged to the prior and monks of Norwich, and continued in use till the Dissolution. In 1453 Thos. Trewe alias Parke was buried in the chancel, and ordered a stone to be laid over him with his image and inscription. In 1456 Ric. Bere, goldsmith, buried here, gave a "ship" of silver for the use of the church, and in the same year Mabel, wife of Rich<sup>d</sup> Apulton, was buried in the chancel before the image of St. Mary. In 1460 Margery, widow of Thos. Parke, mentioned above, was buried by her husband; and in 1463 John Folkard, alderman, was likewise buried here. In 1464 John Goose, shoemaker, was interred in the churchyard, and gave to the exaltynge of the crucifix on the rode lofte 6s. 8d. In 1474 John Baly, owner of the Popinjay,

was buried in the church. In 1504 John Silke, notary, gave his antiphoner to the church and 40*d.* to the curate; and in 1516 Joan, wife of Robert Belle, was buried in the nave, by her husband, and gave a stipend for a curate to serve in the church two years and sing for her and her husband, besides much linen to the altar, and a towel of plain cloth for to howsel with of iiij or v ellys by estimacon.

In 1544 the Dean and Chapter of Norwich granted a lease of this church to the city for five hundred years, at a yearly rent of 4*d.*, with all the bells, lead, churchyard, grounds, walls, and buildings thereto belonging. The desks in the choir were reserved by the Dean, but were purchased by the city, and the windows repaired. In the same year it was leased out in parcels by the city, as appears from the following notes from the Corporation records—"36th Hen. VIII., receyved of Crane for a broken marbyll ston that lay upon Mr. Preston's grave, his Wyfys husbond, in the churchyard, 12*d.*; of Will. Waller, for halff a yere ferme of the church ended Myghelmes, granted to him by a lease for twenty years, 6*s.* 8*d.*; of John Derne, for halfe a yeare ferme of the west end of the churchyard, then newly enclosed with ston walls, 3*s.* 4*d.*; of John Jowel, for a year's ferme of the south and east sides of the churchyard, with the tenantry annexed, lately purchased of Arnold, 26*s.* 8*d.*; of John Thyrykyl, for seven old fourmes, 7*s.*; of Thomas Farrou, for the font, with a lytele marble stone that laye thereby, 6*s.* 8*d.*; of the churchwardens of St. George Tombland, for the roodloft and the desks of the quiere, 30*s.*; and of Thomas Barcham, for the altar and an old tabernacle, 3*s.* 4*d.*"

In 1554, the lead, weighing 52 cwt. 3 qrs. 22 lbs., was taken down and the church tiled. In 1564, it became a hall for the strangers to search and sell their baize

in; and in 1624 it became a hall for the sale of yarn, but the yarn men finding it too small, vacated it in 1631. In 1637, it was granted for forty years to the Walloons, they undertaking to repair and make it fit for God's worship; and also to repair the yard on the north side, the steeple, the church, and walls. This lease was from time to time renewed, and for generations the old church was the worshipping place of those who fled from their native soil, seeking "a faith's pure shrine" and freedom to worship God, glorying in the name of Huguenot.

Here rest many of these, and their descendants. Amongst other names we find those of Martineau, Colombine, and De Caux. The last burials were those of two Melea Colombines, in January and February of 1829. The French congregation gradually lessened; amongst other reasons, through the descendants of the original settlers intermarrying with their English neighbours. During later years it has been occupied by various religious persuasions, amongst others the Swedenborgians, and now by the brethren of the Catholic Apostolic Church, whose little lamp, continually burning by night and day over the altar, though emblematic of different religious views, takes us back, through the centuries, to the time when incense burned and the Ave Marias of the Roman Catholic Church were heard within these walls. No other city church can tell the story of so many changes as can be given in reference to St. Mary the Little. This parish was consolidated with St. George Tombland in 1544, and with it the south end of Tombland passed to the latter parish.

When we reach the square which now forms the approach to the Bank of England Chambers, we have come to our bounds in this direction. Looking across to the other side we see a fine old house, now the residence



of Mr. W. H. Forster, which is the last in Queen Street over which we claim parochial jurisdiction. In this house resided Benjamin Kittmer, J.P., Deputy Lieutenant and Commissioner of Taxes, who, dying in 1831, was buried in St. George's Church.

Returning towards Tombland, there remains another old house, which shews in its windows traces of Elizabethan architecture. Here, in the last days of that Queen, lived John Symonds, a merchant tailor, and Olive his wife. Till late years there was an old doorway, having in one spandrel  $I^S O$ , and in the other, "1599." Symonds was sheriff in 1603, and was the donor of the loaves of bread which appear every Sunday morning on the slab beneath his quaint old monument.

We will now give our fellow wanderers a little rest, for we must pass up Queen Street towards London Street, into another parish (St. Michael at Plea). Perhaps some light refreshment at Fasola's well-known establishment may not be amiss after our walk. Having partaken of this, let us return, and passing over Bank Plain, we reach our parish once again at the house of our friend and sidesman, Mr. Charles Baker, and his genial kind-hearted lady. Their house is on the north, and that of Mr. N. Howard, on the south side of Bank Street. On both houses are tablets, which mark our boundaries. Keeping on Mr. Howard's side of the street, we arrive at the office of Mr. Councillor Rose. This was formerly the Norwich Stamp Office, which was transferred to, and amalgamated with the Inland Revenue Office, now on Tombland. At the south-eastern end of Bank Street, and facing the Post Office, are the offices of Messrs. Foster and Co., Solicitors. These are old, and the moulded ceilings shew that the house was erected by some one of no mean importance. Here were some mediæval spandrels, one of which shewed the arms of



the See, impaling those of Bishop Nix (1500-1536), who was fined 10,000 marks and imprisoned by Hen. VIII. for secretly communicating with the Court of Rome after renouncing the Roman Catholic religion.

In the early part of the century here was the Griffin Lane, where some of the aristocracy of the parish lived. We are told that the present entrance to Messrs. Foster and Co.'s office, above referred to, was then that of a young ladies' school. In the great march of Time "The Griffin" and lane have disappeared. The latter was a narrow roadway, and led from King Street to the Castle Meadow. The London Street and Prince of Wales' Road improvements rendered it necessary to put an end to the existence of "The Griffin" and the lane to which it gave its name.

We must now cross over and look at the almost palatial building erected by the late firm of Harvey and Hudson, and formerly known as the Crown Bank. On their dissolution in 1870 it passed into the hands of the Post Office authorities. Previous to its erection some old houses occupied the site. A notable fact relative to this building is that the present honourable member for Stoke-on-Trent, Mr. Broadhurst, who has lately come to reside amongst us, and is now a Justice of the Peace for the county, assisted in its erection.

Turning down the passage at the south end of the Post Office we cross the road and step into Cook Row, the whole of the northern side of which is in the parish of St. George. On our left once rose the towers of the celebrated monastery of the Grey Friars, of which like that greater and more noble building of old, "not one stone remains upon another." No Prince of Wales' Road, no hurrying to and from the ever busy railway, but the calm stillness of studious religious life pervading the cell of many a solitary monk. The Grey or

Franciscan Friars settled here about 1226. The length of their church, Blomefield tells us, was 350 feet; the breadth of the nave and aisles about 80 feet, and that of the choir 50 feet; the cloister on the south side was a square, and the length of the nave 150 feet. In 1539 the convent was dissolved and granted to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, who pulled it down. The burials and bequests appear to have been numerous (see *Blomefield*, iv. 109, 111.) This historian gives the names of priors and friars, many of whom appear to have been men of learning and integrity.

From Cook Row we must imagine ourselves climbing over walls and houses and otherwise trespassing till we reach Dr. Beverley's residence on the north side of Prince of Wales' Road, the westerly part of which house is in our parish, the easterly in that of St. Peter Permouthergate, and continuing northward we reach St. Faith's Lane at the south-west corner of the Horse Fair. Walking towards Tombland, at the first corner on the left hand side, we see a gateway which shuts off all that remains of what in the days of our boyhood was known as Crinkle Crankle Lane. This was a very appropriate name, for by devious turnings, passing on the right the academy of the late Mr. Wm. Brookes (the eminent local meteorologist), with its capacious play-ground, the former now the residence of Mr. C. H. Rust, and on the left within a very few feet of its present frontage, the house where our old and much respected schoolmaster and friend, Mr. J. W. Dowson, passed away a few years since, we reached King Street opposite the present Post Office.

However, we are in St. Faith's Lane, passing up which till we reach Stone-hall, the whole of the left hand side is in our parish, that on the right being within the Precincts. We must cross Ratton Rowe, which has already engaged our attention, and turning the corner we come into Upper King Street. With the Street we must first deal, so

far as it belongs to us, that is, to Cook Row on our left, and the back of the Post Office on our right. One end of the street seems, so early as the 27th Edward I., to be known as Vicus de Cunesford (street of the King's Ford). Who the king was, and where the ford which he used was situate, though there have been many conjectures upon the subject, appears to be shrouded in the impenetrable gloom of the past. Possibly, our topographical remarks on the earliest days of Tombland tend to show it was one of the first of those Danish, or Saxon Vikings who so ruthlessly swept down upon our eastern shores. That "The Earls," may we not say Kings of the East Angles, had a palace near, or on Tombland, is admitted by our local historians, and one can imagine the Norseman, or the Saxon warrior, wading through some portion of our river, certainly somewhere below "Conesford," regardless equally of water or the foe.

On the south side of "The Popinjay," in King Street, stood the parish church and churchyard of St. Cuthbert, which church and parish had a precarious and short-lived existence. The churchyard extended easterly to that part of St. Faith's Lane which runs southward from Tombland, and overlooked the Grey Friars Monastery on its south side. In 1272 the Rectory was united to St. Mary in the Marsh, but the parishioners not approving, it became a separate parish again, and so continued till after 1492, when it was united to St. Mary the Less. In 1530 the church was pulled down, and in 1535 the prior and convent leased out the churchyard to Thos. Godsalve, who totally cleared away the ruins and there built a house. In 1553 it belonged to Thomas Bemond, for he is then mentioned as having an orchard or garden, formerly the churchyard (see p. 18). Subsequent owners or residents were Lawrence Wood, Gent., Thos. Allen,

Gent., Richd. Chamberlin, Esq., Thos. Warkhouse, Esq., Charles Buckle, Esq., and in 1742, Justice Clarke.

On part of the churchyard, in the immediate rear of the Popinjay, now stand the commodious warehouses of Messrs. Green and Wright, wholesale grocers and wine merchants of this city.

In 1264, during the troubles of the king and barons, some lawless citizens, after setting fire to the houses of John le Lindrap and John de Belaya, the latter of which was burnt, cut the ropes of the bells of St. Cuthbert and St. Vedast, lest any should come to extinguish it (*N. A.*, vol. ii. p. 261). In 1268, "one William de Bunham, chaplain, placed himself in the church of St. Cuthbert, for a certain homicide perpetrated at Torp [Thorpe] as they say" (*Id.* p. 271). There was a lane which was called (temp. Edw. IV.) St. Cuthbert's Lane, for then certain of the common council were chosen to confer with Friar Rokewode, to excite his benevolence for the repair thereof, it being near the monastery. The friar gave five marks.—*Kirkpatrick.*

Further on, within iron palisading, we reach the Norfolk County Club. Adjacent to this are the offices of Messrs. I. O. Taylor and Sons (formerly the old Crown Bank). The present head of the firm takes a great interest in the Norfolk and Norwich Musical Festivals, and so materially helps our city charities. Next, comes an elegant suite of offices, recently erected by Benjn. Bavin, Esq. Crossing Prince of Wales' Road we claim three more houses, and returning, must pass over to the south-east corner of Bank Street: looking towards Tombland all the buildings on this side of King Street are new. Till 1883 this portion of the street was very narrow, and having regard to the increased traffic to the railway station and cattle market, it was deemed desirable to pull down the old houses

to widen it. These were known as the "Suffragans tenements," and reached to the junction of King Street with Queen Street. They were built by John Underwood, Suffragan to Bishop Rix (c. 1506). All these were burnt down in the "great fire." The site ultimately passed into the hands of the Corporation. Here, south of "The Compasses," was a fine red-brick mansion, similar to that of E. P. Simpson, Esq., on Tombland, in which resided Fras. Arnam, Mayor in 1732, and in later days Mr. F. J. Blake, solicitor, for fifty years churchwarden. In a house near the centre of the row lived the celebrated Puritan, William Bridge, for an account of whom see Chap. V. Reaching the corner of Queen Street our walk round the Parish terminates.

We trust it has not been altogether an uninteresting one.







## CHAPTER IV.

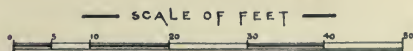
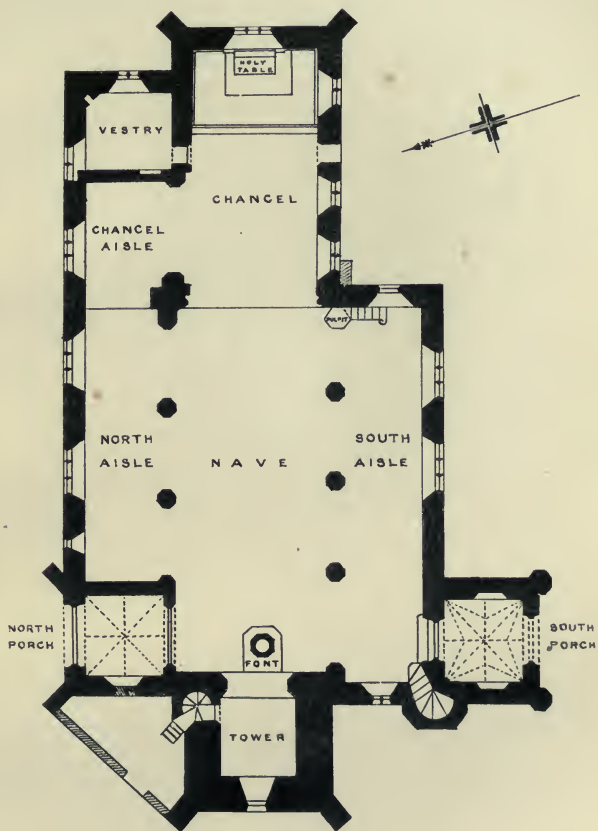
### The Church.

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OUR Church stands upon sloping ground at the east end of Prince's Street, formerly known as Hundegate, and was given to the College of our Lady in the Chapell of the Field by the founder of the College, John Le Brun. In 1350, Bishop Bateman appropriated it to the same college on condition they served it by a vicar or parish chaplain, and in 1538, Myles Spenser, Doctor of Laws, Dean of the College, and the Canons of the same place, for the sum of viij*l*. of lawful "Englyshe" money, paid by Ely Jermy, Wedowe, Thomas Bathcom, gravor, John Kevell, grocer, Henry Pygge, barbor, John Pye, cordewayner, and Wyllm Spratt, vintener, all of Norwyche, "to th' use, commodyte, and profet of the sayed howse or chapell in the felde, in releve and towarde the maytaynce, &c. . . and for a quyetnes, peace, and unyti, to be observed, hade, and kepte among the parysheners of Saynte George, demysed, granted, and to ferme letten to them, theyr executors, administrators, and assignes, all that ther

# St George Tombland Church.





sayed paryshe church or parsonage, wythe the appurtenances, together wythe all maner of tythes, oblacons, obvencons, devocons, emolumentes, and other commodytyes whatsoever thaye be, to the sayde paryshe church or parsonage apperteynyng, for the term of three score yeares, from the feast of Estre then last, they payeng iijs. iiij*d*. yerely at the feaste of Eastre, and fyndyng a suffycient and able secular pryste to serve the cure and mayntenynge the chauncell" (*E. A.*, p. 233). Shortly after the date of this lease the College was dissolved, and at its expiration the church, &c., became vested in the Crown, and in the 42nd Elizabeth, that Queen granted it to the Bishop of Ely, in whose patronage it continued till 1852, when it passed by exchange to the Bishop of Norwich.

The church appears to have been founded in the thirteenth century, and to have undergone alterations in the fifteenth. It thus portrays to a certain extent the gradations of Gothic architecture, and the influence which the Catholic religion exercised in developing the pointed styles. The total length of the building is 101 ft.; and it is 49 ft. wide. It embraces nave, north and south aisles, chancel, north chancel aisle, north and south porches, vestry, and tower. It is built in flint, but the clerestory has been restored in brick. The font and the five arches of the nave are evidently the oldest part of the church, and probably were erected in the thirteenth century.

The *Font* is of Purbeck marble, 2 ft. 6 ins. in height, exclusive of steps. Its bowl is an irregular octagon in shape, measuring 2 ft. 4 ins. across, and 1 ft. 3 ins. deep. It is supported by a central shaft, around which eight circular shafts were recently inserted, thus carrying out the original design. The font has a wooden cover in the pseudo-classic style, supported by four columns, and is of more recent

date. It is noticeable that the font stands slightly to the south of the centre line of the church.

This leads us to the discovery that the chancel is not continued in a straight line with the nave, but bends slightly to the south. This inclination is considered to have reference to an esoteric meaning, explained by some as symbolical of the inclining of the Saviour's head on the Cross. Furthermore, we find that the nave deviates from due east and west by about  $13^{\circ}$  S.E., which would imply that the foundation of the church was laid in the winter : for it is considered that the orientation of ancient churches was fixed by the point in the horizon on which the sun rose when the foundation was laid.

The five arches of the *Nave* are conspicuous in the irregular arrangement of their columns, which are neither opposite nor equal in number. The shafts are octagonal, the capitals exhibiting some bold cutting ; whilst the moulding around the arches forms a succession of simple rectangular recesses. It is considered that the western arch of the south arcade was reformed in the fifteenth century, when the present tower was erected. The roof of the nave, with its handsome carved cornice, and arched braces finishing on to moulded shafts and corbels, has been rebuilt in Perpendicular times ; when a flatter roof of the period was substituted for the old high-pitched Decorated one, the rake of which is shown by the stone-string on the tower. On the spandrels shields and scrolls are painted.

In the *North Aisle*, the roof is an ancient one, and has some fine moulded timbers. The windows therein are three in number, namely, a small window of debased Gothic style (with two lights) which was doubtlessly erected to light the gallery of 1652 ; and two larger ones, of three lights each, with rectilinear tracery ; which were filled with stained glass in 1867 by Mrs. Charlotte Foster



and Mrs. Harriet Foster, in memory of their aunt, the late Miss Charlotte Hudson.

In the *South Aisle* we find, on the south side, two windows of the Perpendicular period, with depressed arches; on the west side, a window with two lights, differing from the other windows in the church, in that the heads of the lights are not trefoliated, but simply trefoiled; and, on the east side, a window recently introduced, which contains stained glass, representing the crucifixion and symbolical of other truths.

The *Clerestory* windows are ten in number. They each contain two lights, and are situate between the arched braces of the roof.

The *Chancel* is 34 ft. deep, and has a square termination. It is entered by a handsome pointed arch, which has recently been restored; as also, at the same time, was the beautiful roof of the fifteenth century. This roof is supported by arched braces springing from corbels in the shape of angels. These latter are carved in oak, each one bearing some symbol, or being symbolical of some religious act. On the north side we find the hammer and nails, Latin cross, organ (of music), the arms of the See of Norwich, and the harp; and on the south side are to be seen the armorial bearings of St. George, benediction with left hand, the ladder, crown of thorns, scourges, and hands joined in prayer. The intersections of the timbers are filled with foliated bosses. The east window is divided into three lights, and is of the Perpendicular style. It was restored in 1851 at a cost of £81. 17s. 6d., the churchwardens (Messrs. Collyer and Blake) themselves paying the additional expense of ornamental glazing in lieu of plain quarries. On the south side are three windows of two lights each, also in the Perpendicular style.

We draw attention to the *Sanctuary* window, which,

after being blocked for years, was re-opened, chiefly at the instigation of the late Rev. Kirby Trimmer. At his decease and that of his sisters, it was desired by their friends and the parishioners that a memorial should be erected to them, and that it should take the form of a stained glass window, this one being considered the most appropriate. In one of the lights, an angel stands under an elaborate canopy, and bears a leafy branch, in reference to the late vicar's untiring zeal in pursuing the study of botany. The scroll around the head of this figure has the words from the Benedicite, "O all ye green things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord." In the other light, also standing under a canopy, is an angel bearing a book, in reference to the Rev. K. Trimmer's authorship; whilst on the open pages are the following words :

*"Amabiles et decori valde in vita sua  
In morte quoque non sunt divisi."*

The above lines express the love between the brother and the sisters, which was severed only on earth by their parting. The scroll around the head of this angel has the words from Isaiah xxx. 8, "Note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come." In the tracery are angels bearing scrolls with "Alleluia" on each. We may conclude by saying that color, effect, and delicacy of detail are exquisitely realised, and that the light thus transmitted gives a rich tone to the east end. This window was executed by Messrs. Clayton and Bell of London, under the supervision of Messrs. Taylor and Gray, Surveyors, of this parish.

On the south side there is also a small priests' doorway. Between the braces of the roof are ten small windows of two lights each. Here is a handsome pendant gas corona, with twelve lights, the recent and very acceptable gift of Mrs. and Miss Williams of Prince of Wales' Road.

The *Chancel Aisle*, which was once probably the Chapel of Our Lady, opens into the chancel by an obtuse four-centred arch, with semi-octagonal columns. It contains, on the north side, a Perpendicular window (with three lights), which was filled with stained glass in 1867 by Commander Shaw, R.N., in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Sutton. Abutting this part of the church on the east is the *Vestry*, of later date.

The *Tower*, which was built about 1445, is entered by a lofty pointed arch, springing from semi-circular responds. It contains a west window of three lights, with rectilinear tracery. Underneath this is a small window, which, from an outside view, discloses what decay and iconoclasm has left us of a beautiful canopied niche. At the summit (a height of 74 ft.) the tower is crowned with a handsome embattled parapet, decorated with panel work, and having short pinnacles at the angles. To strengthen the tower there are two plain buttresses, placed diagonally at the west corners, and terminating at the top with simple slopes. The plinth of the tower is ornamented with panel work, consisting of lozenges bearing the sacred heart and crown of thorns. This decoration is visible on the north side, which is roofed over for heating purposes. In the tower are five bells, another small bell, and at the summit (outside) is the clock bell. Four of the five first-mentioned bells are pre-Reformation, and read respectively :—

1. + IN : MORTIS : HORA : PRO : ME : GEORGI : PRECOR :  
ORA.
2. + AVE : MARIA : GRĀ : PLENA : DÑS : TECŪ.
3. + AVE MARIA GRACIA PLENA.
4. + : O : SIDVS : CELI : FAC : BARBARA : CRĪA : DELI :

The fifth reads "*Anno Domini 1619*," and has on its crown three shields; one having the shield of Brazier,

a Norwich bell-founder ; the second, the arms of Norwich city ; and the third, <sup>A B</sup>/<sub>W</sub>, shewing that the bell was cast by William Brend, also a bell-founder in this city. The letter "A" is the initial of his wife Alice. The small bell, which is unhung, has upon it "B, 1590," indicating the same founder. The clock and its bell were the gift of Charles Maltby, a parishioner in 1786. The bell has the inscription, "The gift of Charles Maltby to the parish of St. George's Tombland, 1786." The clock has been a constant source of expense to the parish since it was here placed. In 1886 it was repaired at a cost of £14, and last year (1890) was again put in order by subscription. There is in the Record Office an Inventory, dated 1368, of the goods of nearly all the parish churches in Norwich, and only ten are recorded as possessing other than hand-bells. St. George was of the ten, and had one bell.—L'Estrange's *Church Bells of Norfolk*.

There are north and south porches, each having its restored parvise.

The *North Porch*, forming a galilee in the west bay of the north aisle, has a vaulted roof ; the groin-ribs springing from responds at the four corners. On the west side there was originally a window with two lights, but it is now bricked up. Over the pointed archway—which forms the north entrance—is a square canopied niche, unhappily defaced and devoid of its image, which was probably removed in 1648 (see p. 13).

The *South Porch* has a vaulted roof of more elaborate construction, being divided into sixteen compartments ; on the other hand the groin-ribs are lighter, and terminate on corbels in the form of angels. There are bosses at the intersections of the ribs, the central one representing St. George and the Dragon. The entrance has a square arrangement of mouldings over the doorway, with drip-



stone terminations in the form of heads. The arch-moulding is continued to the ground without shafts; and includes the large hollow, characteristic of the Perpendicular period. The west face of the porch presents a good specimen of local flint work, and is supported by octagonal buttresses with crested terminations. The parvise has a south window of two lights; and is entered from the south aisle by a semi-octagonal staircase on the west side of the porch. This porch was restored in 1890, Mr. T. C. R. King generously cleaning the almost obliterated bosses.

In pre-Reformation times there existed in this church altars and images of which we now have no trace. The altar of St. Anne is mentioned in 1456; the altar of Our Lady and the image of the Holy Trinity, 1482; images of SS. George, Margaret, and Erasmus, 1504; and an image of Our Lady, 1518; an altar of St. Nicolas; and lights of St. George and St. Katherine.

In the seventeenth century there was a gallery over the holy table; in the first Faculty Book in the Bishop's Office, we find at fo. 87 the following, which shews (*inter alia*) that there was then a parsonage.

To the Right Rev<sup>d</sup> father in God, Anthony,<sup>1</sup> by divine permission Lord Bishop of Norwich. The humble petition of the Minister, Churchw., & p<sup>r</sup>ishioners of St Geo. in Tombland, in the City of Norw<sup>ch</sup>, Sheweth.

Whereas, in the late time of Rebellion a sect of men called Independants got the church into their possession, and contrary to the established law, demolished the ornam<sup>t</sup>s in the Chancell of the said Church, and Scandalously did erect a Gallery with seates over the Communion Table, w<sup>ch</sup> is not onely indecent, but alsoe a great hinderance to the light and annoyance in the time of the celebrac<sup>o</sup>n of the holy Sacram<sup>te</sup>, and the visitors commissioned by the Archdeacon for visitac<sup>o</sup>n of Churches have frequently made complainte thereof. Especially in or about the yeare 1674, there was an order from the then ordinary for the pulling

<sup>1</sup> Anthony Sparrow, Bp. from Reynold's death to 1685.



downe, notwithstanding w<sup>ch</sup> upon a false suggestion made by some p'ticular p'sons to D<sup>c</sup>or Pepper then Vicar gen<sup>l</sup> to Edward,<sup>1</sup> L<sup>d</sup> B<sup>p</sup> of Norw<sup>ch</sup> that there wanted convenient Roome for the p'ishioners to heare divine Service, there was a faculty obtained for the confirmacō of it.

But upon a better view we finde the said Gallery to be altogether unnecessary, the Church being without it capable of conteininge aboute Double the number of p'ishioners.

The premises considered, wee your Lordship's petitioners humbly crave your Lord'ps Lycence may be granted to the Churchwardens to take Downe the said Gallery, and convert the matteralls towards the Repayring and adorning the said Chancell and Church. And wee shall ever pray for your Lordship, &c. Leo. Gleane, Sam. Verdon, Willm. Johnson, Jon. Hayward, Jon. Beecroft, Saml. Salmon, Tho. Beckwith, Her. ffoster, Willm. Pinchin, Wm. Spring.

This petition, it will be observed, is undated, but on the 21st June, 1680, a Commission issued under the Episcopal seal to Thomas Towneshend, Esq., and four others, directing any three or more of them to enter the church of St. George Tombland, and to certify the result of their inspection to the Bishop. Their certificate or report is recited in the "Order" the Bishop made for the removal of the gallery, which is dated 29th June, 1680. Both the commission and the order are in Latin, and are scarcely worth printing, but the certificate may be more interesting.

To the Right Reuerend ffather in God, Anthony, Lord Bipp. of Norw<sup>ch</sup>, Wee, Thomas Towneshend, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Isaac Mootham, Esq., ffrancis Gardiner, Gent., Thomas Bradford, Clerke, and William Cicill, Clerke, doe w<sup>th</sup> all due reuerence Certifie That by vertue of the power and authoritie given to vs by yo<sup>r</sup> Lordship's Commission under yo<sup>r</sup> Espiscopall seale, Dated the one and twentyeth day of this instant June, Anno d'ni 1680. Wee vpon the three and twentyeth day of the said month of June, in the said yeare, entred into the parish Church of S<sup>t</sup> George's of Tombland in the Citie of Norw<sup>ch</sup>, and being then and there mett did view the Gallerie

<sup>1</sup> Edward Reynolds, Bishop of Norwich from 1660 to 1676.

built att the East end of the Chancell of the said Church, which wee were crediblie informed was built and erected there in the times of the late rebellion before the happie restauration of the King's ma<sup>tie</sup> that now is, for the more ample receiueing and conteineing a Sect of people called Independents, whoe in those times flocked from all p'ts of the Citie, to heare such preaching there as best suited the humo<sup>rs</sup> of that sect. Which Gallerie (being soe built ouer the place where the Coi'on Table standeth and is to stand) hindreth the lighth and sight to that Table, And wee doo Conclu<sup>de</sup> in o<sup>r</sup> Judgement, That the said Gallerie is scandalous and indecent, and not fitt to be continued, And that the said Church would be more ornamentall w<sup>th</sup>out it; And if there were anie such facultie granted (as is said) by the authoritie of yo<sup>r</sup> Lordship's p<sup>r</sup>decessor Bishop of Norw<sup>ch</sup> or his Vicar Generall, vpon this or the like suggestion, That without it that Church and Chancell were not capatious enough to place and containe all the Inh'tants of that p'ish for the heareing diuine service there celebrated, We are sufficiently satisfied by credible Informacōn, That such a suggestion was frivilous and false, ffor that we are assured, That if that Gallerie be pulled downe the Church and Chancell are w<sup>th</sup>out it capatious enough to containe in convenient seats allmost double the number of the Inh'tants of that parish. And wee further Certifie, That we conceive it may be pulled downe and remoued without weekening the fabricke of the said Chancell, and w<sup>th</sup>out p<sup>r</sup>judice to anie p'son that can p'tend anie proprietic for sitting there.

All which wee humble offer to yor Lordship's consideracōn. In witnes whereof wee haue herevnto sett o<sup>r</sup> hands, Tho. Towneshend, Js. Mootham, ffrancis Gardiner, Tho. Bradford, Willm. Cecill.—*E. A. i. 174.*

The galleries at the west end of the nave (dated 1652) and aisles were removed during the restoration (1879-1886), when oak benches were erected in the place of the old high pews, the wood of the latter being used in their construction. At the same time, the pulpit, the old sounding board of which still remains, the communion rail and handsome oak reredos, were re-fitted. A uniform pedestal has recently been added to the pulpit, through the exertions of Mr. W. H. Forster, of Queen Street. The restoration cost between £1300 and

£1400, the parish being generously assisted by Messrs. T. C. R. King, Geo. Forrester, Joseph Allen, and E. Gray, to whom votes of thanks were subsequently passed.

In 1543 some early organs were brought from the Dutch Church and set up here. The present organ, which has two manuals and is situate in the chancel aisle, is the gift of Philip Back, Esq.

In 1664 there was a squabble about a faculty pew, as is shewn by the following quaint entry:—"17 Aug. 1664, Edmund Wytherley s<sup>d</sup> he had a seat under a lease from Bishop of Ely and same hath usually appertained to his house. Mr. Jay says he belieues he hath the lease, but not in his power to dispose of it ouer any person dwelling in same house, and says he hath long used s<sup>d</sup> seat till his wife was ejected by s<sup>d</sup> Mr. Wytherley. Wytherley says she sat there by his permission, and he put a lock on. Jay took lock off. Ordered that Mrs. Jay, her daughters, and Mrs. Crofts *may* sit there and have a key of same."—*Faculty Book, 1633-1736*, p. 52. We believe this pew was approached from an exterior door leading to it only.

*The Churchyard*, exclusive of the church and passages, contains about a third of an acre. The part on the south side is ornamented with trees and shrubs, amongst them being two poplars. The part on the north side is intersected by the alley, which was wood paved by Mr. Allen to preserve parochial rights, the city authorities having begun to asphalte it.

*Church Goods.* After the Reformation wholesale havoc was made amongst the valuables of our churches. We find from a return made by the churchwardens (Alexander Mather and Thomas Bathcom) in 1553, that there hathe been solde by the consente of the greater parte of the parishe some othe (*sic*) plate within theise ii. yeres as dyd extende to the some of xxx*li*. xix*s*. iiij*d*. Whereof they

have bestowed in reparinge, reding, and whytinge of the churche and other necessary charges belonging to the same, as pulpyt and bybell, and payeng x.li. of debts whiche they dyd owe for enlarging the churche in makeinge a newe yle,<sup>1</sup> and mayntenynge of a sute agayneste John Derne as to the right, a some of xxv.li. xs.—*Norf. Arch.*, vi. 361.

From a receipt given in 1555 (now in the Queen's Remembrancer's office) by the then churchwardens, Wm. Sprotte and Peter Webscarr, to Edw. the Sixth's Commissioners (John Corbett and Austen Steward) for selling superfluous church goods, we note that the latter allowed the parish to retain the following :—

j Challes, with the pattent of silvd gylt, xxi oz. and iij q <sup>rs</sup> , valued at vs. iiij <i>d</i> . the owncce . . . . .	} vj <i>li</i> . xvjd.
j Challis of silver, xj oz. and iij q <sup>rs</sup> , at iijs. iiij <i>d</i> . . . . .	} xlvijs. viij <i>d</i> .
j bere cloth of worsted . . . . .	iijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
j ditto of bawdkin . . . . .	iijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
jj sylke wushenns (? cushions) at . . . . .	ijs.
a ould chest bound w <sup>t</sup> iron . . . . .	vs.
j paire of organs . . . . .	ii <i>li</i> . vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
iiij owlld towells . . . . .	xvjd.
iiij owlld all <sup>d</sup> clothes . . . . .	ijs.
detts owing to the parisshe by obligacions . . . . .	xij <i>li</i> .
Sm. totlis, xxiiij <i>li</i> . xijs. viij <i>d</i> .	

The above bears the signature of Dr. Miles Spencer, the merchant's mark of Steward, and "me, Ricum Toly" (a scrivener in the parish).

Coming down to the last terrier (1886), we find, in reference to our church goods, first, a set of handsome plate, given in 1751 by Stephen Gardiner, Esq. We

<sup>1</sup> Who would not make a new aisle at this price?



cannot do better than describe it in the words of one of the able Secretaries of the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society (the Rev. C. R. Manning, M.A.) We quote from the proceedings of the Society, vol. x. p. 84-5.

1, 2. *Pair of Cups*. Fine, gilt. Coat of arms on one side of bowl, in frame or cartouche, like a "Chippendale" book-plate, Sable, a chevron argent between three griffins' heads erased, *Gardiner*; impaling, Or, a chevron sable between three murrets (ducks) proper, *Carthew*. *Crest*: A griffin's head erased. On other side I H S with cross and nails in rays. *Marks*: (1) W C in plain oblong; (2) lion passant in shaped shield; (3) small Roman p (large as capital) in shaped shield (1750-1); (4) leopard's head, crowned, in shaped shield. Weight, 41 ozs. 17 dwts.

3, 4. *Pair of Patens*, with foot. Same arms in centre; same I H S on foot.

5. *Alms Plate*. Large; on four feet. Same I H S in centre; same arms above; same *marks*.

6, 7. *Pair of Flagons*. Same I H S on side; same arms on lid; same *marks*.

8. *Spoon, Strainer*. Same I H S on curve of handle; same arms on back; same *marks*.

9. *Alms Bowl*. Large and fine. Same I H S in centre; same arms on rim; same *marks*. *Inscription* round the I H S: "ΠΑΝΤΑ ΕΥΣΧΗΜΟΝΩΣ ΤΙΝΕΣΘΩ."<sup>1</sup> "Ecclesiæ S<sup>d</sup> Georgii de Tombland, Hæc Vasa Dicavit Stephanus Gardiner, 1751."

This fine set of plate was re-gilt and provided with an oak case in 1878, through the generosity of Joseph Allen, Esq.

There is also a small metal font, presented by the late clerk, Mr. J. P. Sturgess; an old carving of St. George and the Dragon, and a Plan of the Church before the Restoration: the two latter in the vestry.

Our next chapter will relate to the Font, the Altar, and the Grave—not architecturally, but in respect of those whom they have welcomed and received.

<sup>1</sup> Anglicised, "Let all things be done decently and in order." See 1 Cor. xiv. 40.





## CHAPTER V.

### The Font, the Altar, and the Grave.

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#### I.—THE FONT.

Oh, blessed Font! how many a child hast thou received  
Into this dear Church, who in days gone by believed;  
Relic of the long bygone Past!  
May'st thou, while solemn Time shall last  
Welcome to Christ, the babe so pure!



THE first we can welcome to our story of the Font (our registers record about 4616 baptisms) was little Agnes Manby on the 23rd Nov., 1538. However, Laurence Woodes, scrivener, who was one of the feast makers in 1561, when earls and lords banqueted in St. Andrew's Hall, and who probably made the entries in the registers, with pardonable affection places his child Agnes first, though she was not baptized till 1576.

So far as we are aware the Christian name of our beloved Princess of Wales first occurs in the register of our city, when "Alexandra" ffox was brought to our font to be received into the church on the 23rd Oct., 1546. In 1547 Agnes Rogers was baptized; the minister not wishing to perform the service in the English language

she was baptized by another, the former considering it of no avail. In the same year Joan Mader, born and baptized at home, "obiit morte" (died by death), on the 1st Dec<sup>r</sup>. Passing on till 1549 we find Rachel, daughter of Thomas Rose, "scismatici" (Dissenter) baptized; Blomefield says of him, "that though he died not at the stake, yet his sufferings were worse than death, and he deserves a place among the martyrs." We find in 1561, that little Leonard Barker passed through the baptismal rite (one of the name still lives, a nephew of the writer); and three years later, was baptized, Edward Barker (the name of his father). Returning for one moment to 1561, Willie Jeffries is brought to our font, as was Ethereda Burgis de Rotten Rowe in 1565.

Augustine, son of Mr. Palgrave, baptized 5th Oct., 1568. He was High Sheriff of Norfolk in 1617, being then Sir Augustine, and causing a dispute between Chief Justice Montagu and John Mingay, the Mayor, by advising the former to take the chair "at the Preaching Place in the Green Yard," "got a wiggling" from his lordship. Thomas, son of Anthony Wilson, was here brought in 1575, and one, a blacksmith, of the father's name, was executed on the Castle Ditches for mutiny in 1648. Our font in 1589 welcomed Francis Houghton, son of Robert (M.P. in 1593), afterwards Sir Robert Houghton, Justice of the King's Bench, and he dying in 1623, his son erected "a noble monument" to his father's memory at St. Dunstan in the West, London. Thomas Anguish in 1593 brought his boy William hither.

Elias Browne, Sheriff in 1660, was baptized in 1605 (Gunpowder Plot year), and died during his shrievalty. A little Gray puts in his appearance in 1607: this is the first time the name of our worthy churchwarden occurs. A Blomefield appears in the same year. Both names

are with us, dwelling within a few doors of each other. Richard Harman, M.P. for Norwich during the Long Parliament, was here baptised in 1608. Whilst M.P. he had £115 for his wages, lucky man! In 1610 follows the name of "Thyrloe," still amongst us and respected, though spelt a little differently.

Michael Baker, possibly an ancestor of our respected sidesman, here in 1620 passed through the ordeal of the baptismal rite; and in 1622, "Culix" (pretty name! Latin for a little fly), son of Augustine Metcalfe, was here received and welcomed. Then closely follows the name of Jermy, an old county family: one of whom was a victim of the Stanfield Hall tragedy.

The Jays now come amongst us for the first time, only to disappear before the close of the century, Christopher, of that name, bringing his son John to be baptized here in 1631; and in the following year the minister, Will. Bridge's little daughter, Hanna, came to our font. Will. Bridge, as will be seen hereafter, was as staunch a Puritan as Jay was Cavalier. The font knows no difference of political views. Thomas Smith's son, let us hope, before he had much to repent of, received the baptismal name of "Repentance" in 1638. A Cornwallis follows in 1640, as does a Boardman; and Luciana Oats, we trust no relation of the infamous Titus, in the year following. Then comes a respected name in 1642, that of Colby, and a son of Hammon Thurston, of whom and his wife it is said:—

"He served both Kings in all the Rebels warr,  
They are, through Christ, in Heaven a happy pair."

In 1660, Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Alden, and "Marget," his wife, was hither brought to be baptized. He was a lay clerk at the Cathedral, where one of the name now worthily fills the office of sub-Sacrist. After

the Restoration in 1660, the Gleanes, Morleys, Townsends, and Dr. Pepper, Chancellor of the Diocese, follow within a period little exceeding a decade, members of families of these names being received into the Church. In 1672, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Norwich, was baptized in *Norwich* at St. George Tombland. 1675 witnessed the baptism of William, son of Mr. William Rie; one of the name was an alderman, displaced at the Restoration. Mary, daughter of Captain John Gibbes, received her initiation to the church in 1676. He (the aforesaid Captain) laid a wager of £500 that he would drive his light chaise and four horses up and down the deepest place of the Devil's Ditch on Newmarket Heath, which he performed, and won his bet. Worthy action for the times of the second Charles!

Sarah, daughter of Mr. John "Jeffiris," minister of God's "woord," was welcomed to our font, and passed through the sacrament of baptism in 1680. He was minister of St. Peter Mancroft forty-two years, Arch-deacon of Norwich, and author of several works.

The names of Harvey, Balderston, Anthony Norris, Bokenham (his wife a daughter of Hamond L'Estrange, Esq., late of Pakenham, Suffolk), Peter Finch, and Taylor now appear in quick succession before the close of the seventeenth century. Here in 1702 Dorithe, daughter of Thomas Tanner and Rose his wife (she a daughter of Bishop John Moore of Norwich, and he afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph), was brought to our church and received the holy rite of baptism; granddaughter of one prelate and daughter of another. In 1709 Thomas Vere, afterwards Sheriff, Mayor, and M.P., had a little daughter, Elizabeth, baptized; within a few short years, alas! to find a resting-place with her mother and infant sister in the neighbouring church of St. Michael at Plea.



Dr. John Clark, minister here and Dean of Salisbury, had several children baptized between 1712 and 1720; and passing on to later years babes bearing the names of Norgate, Marsh, Nasmith, Maltby, Grand, Arnam, Falkner, Beckwith, Lubbock, Donne, Colombine, Blake, Crome (the landscape painter), Bolingbroke, Bosanquet, Winter, Burroughes, Steward, Back, Wright, and Rackham were here received into the church.

We do not venture to give further and later particulars, as we must not encroach within the domestic circle of present friends and neighbours.

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## II.—THE ALTAR.

How welcome was the call,  
And sweet the festal lay,  
When Jesus deigned in Cana's hall  
To bless the marriage day.

The first entry in our earliest register book is that of the marriage of one Roger Cooper and Elizabeth Sewell on the 13th Sept., 1538. She was the first of 2,324 brides who have since come hither.

The next record of the same date tells us, perhaps somewhat facetiously, that "Robtus Barry et Anna uxor ejus nupt. fuer xiiij<sup>o</sup> die Septembris Anno dñi 1538,"<sup>1</sup> not giving the lady's maiden name, it might be assumed that he married his wife. In 1550, "Thomas Hollye" welcomed his bride, "Kateria" Griffith, to the altar, as did a few years afterwards, in 1561, one Thomas Williams enter the bonds of matrimony with "Tomisina Styward." The surnames of both bridegrooms are still in our parish and the owners of them much respected. In 1563, Thomas Atkinson, a clergyman, married Agnes "Blowfield," and

<sup>1</sup> Anglicised, "Robert Barry and Ann *his wife* were married 13th Sept., 1538.



Symon Sumpter wedded Joan Goose, the names of the two brides being still amongst us. A little further on and we find in 1569, one Brett (possibly an ancestor of our parish clerk) was married. The names of Palmer, Marsham, Rose, Bullard, and King follow quickly upon the last. In 1590, Richard Blowfield weds Mary Baly. In 1593 two sheriffs (there were two in those days) united their families, one furnishing a husband and the other a wife, for Wm. Johnson, then sheriff, married Anna Tolye (one of the name being co-sheriff with the bridegroom); Johnson and his wife are buried in St. Etheldred. Richard Harman, possibly father of the one of the same name, who was M.P. for Norwich, *vide* "The Font," here married, in 1598, Zelochell Bately, alienigena (a foreigner), and in 1606, Margaret Howse gives her hand and heart to Tobias Grene. In 1607, Griffin Blackwell pledges his troth to Rebecca Foster; they are represented by the present family of Foster, who have long been connected with the parish, and whose kindly help to every good work has been much appreciated. In 1613 and 1624 the marriages of Anthony Allen and Thomas Bensley are respectively recorded; and in 1626, Edward Chamberlaine weds Elizabeth Whitebie. In 1638, Lady Anna Shawbery became the wife of "Mr. Johannes James." The year 1681 saw the wedding of Robert Blake of Bunwell with "Margrat" Durrant of Scottow. The present representative of the bride's family is Sir Wm. R. Estridge Durrant, Bart., of Scottow, whilst that of the bridegroom finds descendants in the county family of "Jex Blake," of Swanton Abbots.

Sir Thomas Crooke, Baronnitt, married Mrs. Mary Borag, wid., in 1689, but of him we find no record in the *List of Baronets*. In 1696, John Balldere (Baldry) unites with Eliz<sup>h</sup> Browne; in 1697, Aron Formon met

Margaret Miller at our altar; and in 1703, Hennery Back weds Francis Barret, as does James Womersley Frances Ridland. 1704 saw Sion Gurney receive the hand of his bride. Luke Townsend married a Mary Rye in 1708, and the name of Rust first appears in 1712.

In the following year, Jeremy Tompson marries Jane, daughter of the Rev. John Stackhouse, pastor of the Old Meeting for seventeen years, and Jeremiah having been "for thirty years the ornament of this Society" (quoting from his monument), was there buried in 1721. In 1717, Philip Priest weds Elizabeth Back of Stibbard, He was Lay Clerk for ten years at the Cathedral, and was buried there in 1721. The year 1718 witnessed the nuptial ceremonies of Willm. Bullock of Shipdham, and Mary Flood of Yaxham; the bridegroom's family were long settled in the former parish, and derived "their plentiful estate" from Sir Thos. Colby of Kensington, Bart. James Utting of Horstead (the name still remains close by at Stanninghall), in 1719 meets Martha Fisher of Cossey at the altar, and they leave it with one and the same surname, as do John Beverley of this parish, singleman, and Margaret Joyce, in 1726 David Martineau marries Elizabeth Finch in 1721; and two wanderers from a neighbouring parish, St. Peter Permounergate, Thomas Dearing and Mary Flatt, enter into the nuptial bonds two years later. Returning to 1746, we find Thomas Mottram taking Jane Nasmith by the hand; the name of Mr. James Nasmith Mottram, a descendant, is still much respected amongst us. In 1742, George Dewing of St. Andrew's, Holborn, widower, marries one Jane Bayfield of Easton, widow (the first time the name of our late lamented sexton occurs in the registers), and Thomas Dewing follows with Sarah Dewing in 1751. In the year preceding, one Elizabeth Campling of Hainford, singel,

accepts the hand and heart of John Harper, singel, of the same. (A Mr. Campling has since wedded a Miss Harper). One James Colby joins hands with Rachel Renolds in 1752, and in the same year, James Hudson of St. Peter per Mountergate, enters into matrimony with Eliz<sup>h</sup>. Fair. Thomas, eighth Earl of Dundonald, a major in the army, here witnessed the wedding of Francis Gordon and Susanna Davey in 1756; the bride made her mark. A few years pass, and John Rigby of the City of London marries Ann Maltby of this parish in 1757, both good old Norwich names. Henry Life in 1762 unites himself with Eliz<sup>h</sup>. Davey. Did Life's Green take its name from him? Banns were published here in 1765, between Wm. Abbey of this parish, bachelor, and Mary Aram of St. Margaret's, King's Lynn, spinster. Was the latter a relative of Eugene Aram, the usher and murderer, whom Bulwer Lytton made the subject of one of his most popular novels, and Tom Hood one of his most serious poems? In 1767, Thos. Lubbock brought Margaret Elis here to change her name. Coming down to a still later period, we find the names of Hunter, Bell, Marsh, Stevenson (marrying a Matchett), Blake and Colombine, Mason and Colombine, Bosanquet and Ives (witness Saml. R. Gaussen), Utten and Leech, Winter and Thorsby, Barker and Ives (witnessed by W. Bosanquet), Corlett and Colombine.

In concluding this chapter let us express our hope that every maiden who hereafter wends her way to our altar to join hand in hand with her spouse, may in this life enjoy every blessing which earth can give, and bliss in the world to come.

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## III.—THE GRAVE.

Like leaves on trees, the race of man is found,  
 Now green in youth, now withering on the ground ;  
 Another race the following spring supplies,  
 They fall successive, and successive rise ;  
 So generations in their course decay,  
 So flourish these when those are pass'd away.

POPE'S *Homer*.

The earliest burial of which we have any record is that of John Marioun, Rector of Skeyton, who was buried here in 1375. Closely following was that of Thomas Sheff, marbler, in 1380, and his wife Marion in 1383. Weever, in his *Funeral Monuments*, gives the following quaint inscription, which had disappeared before Blomefield's time.

Her arr buryed under this Ston  
 Thomas Sheff and his wyff Marion,  
 Somtym we warr as ye now be,  
 And as we arr so he shall yee ;  
 Wherfore of your Charite,  
 Prey for us to the Trinite.  
 . . . . . obiit (Marion) Mccclxxxlii°.

In 1447 was buried John Excestre, citizen of Norwich, whose wife Isabel pre-deceased him, and was also buried here. He gave to the church a silver chalice of the value of five marks, and two phials of silver, value 13s. 4d., and also a sum of £20 (not £40 as Blomefield states) to buy lead to cover the roof. His executors were Mr. Richard Docket, who was an official to the Archdeacon of Norfolk, and Thomas Storm, "my clerk" (vide *infra*).

In 1457 one William Gybbes of Norwich, clerk, was buried "before the altar of St. Anne." He was erst-while Rector of St. Botolph (long since demolished), and



afterwards of St. Peter Hungate. He left Ralph Taylor, Chaplain of St. George, 6s. 8d. ; for the common purposes of our church, 13s. 4d., and for its repair 20s., not forgetting other parishes with which he had been connected. He also gave to "each chaplain of the guild of Corpus X<sup>i</sup> at my obsequies 4d." His executors were Ralph Taylor and William Gladen.

In 1461 William Brampston was buried. In 1482 Tho. Storme, notary publick and proctor, was buried in the north aisle, before the image of the Trinity, and gave as many 2 ft. marbles as would pave the ground by the altar of our Lady (at which Will. Barber was priest), and from thence to the grave, and also an antiphoner of thirteen marks. Storme was Sheriff of Norwich in 1472, and his son, of the same name, who appears to have attained an opulent position, resided at Stanninghall in Norfolk, of which living he had the presentation; he was buried at Frettenham, with which parish Stanninghall has long been consolidated. Will. Barber above-mentioned, was buried close by Isabel, the wife of John Excestre. In 1491, Agnes Petyte, widow, was buried, and gave wax lights to burn before our Lady of Pity, St. George, St. Margaret, St. Erasmus, St. Catherine, and at the altar of St. Catherine in the south aisle. In 1500, Rob. Harneys was buried by the south porch; in 1504, Joan Best, widow, next Roger Best her husband, and in 1515, William Beisby, who was buried in the churchyard, ordered the anchorite at the Grey Friars "to sing five masses of the five wounds by the privilege of Scala Celi, granted to Boston pardon for him, on the day of, or day after his death."—*Blomef.* iv. 111.

The earliest (not the first) recorded burial in the registers is that of Agnes, the wife of Roger Cowper, in 1538. One Thomas Bretton died from a blow



(ex percussione) of Wm. Andrewes on the 10th July, 1546, and was buried on the same day; also in 1573, was buried Anne, the wife of Thomas Bretton, gen. In 1550, Salathiel, son of Thomas Rose, schismatic, and in 1551, Jael his daughter, were interred (see "The Font"). In the same year, 1551, Joan and Katherine, daughters of Thomas Holley, were buried. In 1565, Jacobus Baker, freemason, was committed to the earth. John Toller, the last minister of the church of St. Mary in the Marsh, was buried here in 1569. Passing by the well-known county names of Brampton and Woodhouse; not omitting the burial, in 1581, of Magister Manning, minister et p̄dicator Dunwici, we come to the sad story of the plague. In 1583 there were only three burials, whereas in 1584 there were twenty-one (twelve in September). In 1585 but six, and then a return of the contagion in 1587 records sixteen burials. One instance of this terrible pestilence, which from time to time visited our city, must suffice: Henry Lynney was the Rector of St. Edmund's; of his children, Zacharias was buried on the 16th June, 1592, Anne on the 11th July, Susanna on the 13th, and Mary on the 16th: four children in the short period of one month! Mathias Riche, medicine doctor, a member of the Dutch church here in 1567, "ab hâc luce recessit" (from this light departed) in 1593; and in 1598, Elizabeth Tolye was "shut up till the last day" (diem clausit extrem<sup>o</sup>), not a specially polite way of recording the fact.

The first burial wholly recorded in English is that of Thomas ffysher in 1602. On entering the church by the South Porch at the west end of the nave we observe, on the wall, a small monument, having the effigies of a man (John Symonds) and his wife. If we omit a small figure brass, of a citizen (now loose in the vestry) whose name is unknown, this is the earliest memorial in our

church. Good John Symonds left bread, for ever, for the poor, and from Sunday to Sunday, on the slab beneath his monument, may be seen the loaves to feed the needy.

In 1613 was buried Edward Peck, a singleman, and servant to "John Jarmy, Esq<sup>re</sup>," Steward to the Dean and Chapter (necessarily a Barrister-at-Law). In 1614 was placed to its rest the body of Henry Galyard, Sheriff in 1599.

In 1615 John Holden, sometime Vicar of St. Stephen's, Rector of St. Michael at Plea, and in 1614 of St. Peter Hungate, entrusted our "God's acre" with all that was mortal of his daughter Martha; and the same year was buried "Michael, son of Henry Goodman, Procurator."

Let us now step to the east end of the north aisle, and behind the organ, pause to look upon the monument of one of the greatest benefactors Norwich ever had. This commemorates Thomas Anguish, Mayor in 1611, founder of that noble institution, the Blue Coat Boys' and Girls' Hospital formerly in St. Edmund's, Norwich. He was not happy in his offspring. Marrying at St. Clement's, in 1567, Elizabeth Thurston, a daughter of a family of repute in that parish, he had nine sons and three daughters, "5 sonnes onlie livinge" at his death. For so kindly a father the loss of *all* daughters must have been a heavy blow. He died 1617; his widow in 1619. The monument (formerly at the east end) quaintly shews babes in swaddling clothes, and older children with skulls in their hands, denoting that they died before their parents. A small memorial beneath the above records the death of Wm. Anguish, Genl. Many of this name occur in the registers in the seventeenth century.

In the chancel by the vestry door a small brass inscription, dated 1621, commemorates "John, the sonne

of William Browne, Alderman, Sheriff in 1616-7, Mayor in 1630." He, the father, was buried here in 1639. When Sheriff he took the high hand of the High Sheriff at the summer Assizes, and the Judges thereupon decreed that for ever thereafter the High Sheriff only should attend the Judges when about County business, and the Sheriffs of Norwich only when about City business, whereupon Will. Browne did on horseback attend the Lord Chief Justice to the Guildhall, and the High Sheriff the other Judge to the Castle. This happy arrangement continues to the present day, except that the Judges are driven in carriages, and do not ride, to court. And yet another brass in our chancel ; it tells us :

Here til in Heaven their Soules and Bodies meete,  
 Sherif Lucian Lawes, his wife lies at his feete,  
 By name Elizabeth ! Reader, then pray  
 Thov there maist meet them at the latter day.

He Sheriff in 1619, buried in 1625, the widow in 1641. Thomas Lawes, their only son, who placed this memorial, was also buried here in 1682. No burials appear to be recorded between 1643 and 1662. In the great plague year we buried twenty-one, which is below the average of other parishes. In 1669 Mr. Miell Peckkeford (Pickford?) finds here his last resting-place, as does Catherine Wattes, an antient maid, in 1673, and closely follow her to the grave in one month (Feb.) three "Soulgers."

Remaining for a while in the chancel we find memorials to the Jays, the Gleanes, a Mrs. Lane, widow, a daughter of the family of Gleane on the maternal side, all staunch Royalists, who suffered in the unfortunate cause of the house of Stuart. No stone marks the site of the grave of Christopher Jay, Mayor in 1657, and M.P. from 1661 to 1677. The register simply tells us "Christ<sup>r</sup> Jay, Esq., Buryed Aug. 23, 1677." Sic transit

gloria mundi. A most indefatigable citizen, serving the city in parliament for sixteen years; from some cause he fell into grievous trouble: what pain it must have given his colleagues in the court of Aldermen to pass the following resolution :—

“ This day (4 April, 1672) upon Readinge the Petition of Chr. Jay, Esq<sup>r</sup>, to the R<sup>t</sup> Hoble. the Lords Commiss<sup>rs</sup> of his Ma<sup>ties</sup> Treasurie, and his Request to have the Certificate of his case (in the s<sup>d</sup> Petition stated), it is agreed that a Certificate under the Seale of Maioralty be drawne up in theise words followinge and the seale thereunto affixed.”

“ The Maior & Court of Aldermen of the City of Norwich doe humblie Certifie under the Seale of Maioralty to the Right Ho<sup>ble</sup> the Lords Commiss<sup>rs</sup> of his Ma<sup>ties</sup> Treasurie the reale truth of the sicknesse & Manner of the Imprisonm<sup>t</sup> of Christopher Jay, Esq<sup>r</sup>, (as is expressed in his Petition to y<sup>r</sup> Lo<sup>ps</sup>). But as to the Merritts of the Cause they doe not in the least undertake to Jntermeddle. But if y<sup>r</sup> Lo<sup>ps</sup> can with Honor and Justice constitute anythinge towards the enlargment of his Person whereby he may be in a Cap<sup>ac</sup>ity so to dispose of his Estate as to make satisfaction for his Engagements It will be for ever Acknowledged A signall Favor and high obligation to the Magistrates of this City, he beinge one amongst them both in the Civil and Military Government.”

On the west wall of the nave a tablet tells us that Francis Aylmer, Gent., was buried beneath it in 1686, as was also his son, Philip Aylmer, Gent., in 1727. A slab on the chancel pavement informs us that Antonius Norris, generosus, et Antonius ejus filius . . . animas Deo reddiderunt primus . . . 1688, alter . . . 1709. In 1698 died Henry Brice, Gent., and in 1699 his widow, Mary, of “pts of the Cathedrall:” a large slab in the nave commemorates them. He was of the “Towne of Ludham” and she of this parish, and were married here in 1675. Shardelow, Sheriff in 1710, buried a daughter here in 1689: he rests in St. Stephen’s. In 1700 Edmund Frost of Hunston Hall, Suffolk, was borne to the grave; his wife pre-deceased him sixteen days; their stone is in the nave. On the same stone is recorded,



with others, the death of Daniell Meadows, formerly of this city, on the 27th of Jan., 1739. He "of London" was interred here ten days afterwards, on the 7th Feb.; he was Sheriff in 1719. The county family of Barkham of Southacre also has memorials here placed in the seventeenth century. Robt. Beecroft, the London carrier, found his last resting-place in our church in 1662. Other tablets and slabs remain of later date. We can only name these briefly, and where more than one of a family is commemorated, we, as a rule, give only the name of the ancestor; our readers will refer to the memorials and registers, if they desire to do so, for further information. Abraham Yestis (Sheriff in 1719), 1728; Robert Ives Browne, 1819; Edward Squire, 1819 (a predecessor of the present firm of Hills and Underwood under the title, Squire and Hills); John Ives, 1773; Harriett Ives, 1800; Col. Colyer, 1861; Samuel Johnson (Barrister-at-Law) 1766, and Mary, his wife, daughter of Hamond L'Estrange, Esq<sup>re</sup>, of Hunstanton Hall, 1808; Thomas Maltby (Sheriff, 1729), 1760; Mary, wife of Stephen Gardiner, granddaughter of Sir Thos. Powys, Knt., Judge of the King's Bench, 1748; Wm. Clarke (Mayor 1739), 1752; H<sup>y</sup> Carter, surgeon, 1830; Martha, the wife of Hewitt Rand, 1755; Marianne Seppings, 1820; Capt<sup>a</sup> Edward Colman, R.N., died at Port Royal, in Jamaica, a victim to yellow fever, 1819; Edward Colman, B.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, at Naples (also of fever), 1842; Susannah Seppings, 1819; Edward King (Mayor in 1741), 1775, aged 92; Benj<sup>a</sup> Kittmer, J.P., D.L., 1831; Susan Willett, 1829; Robt. Marsh (Aldmn. 47 years and Mayor in 1731), aged 91, 1771; Sarah, wife of Francis John Blake, 1827; and Fras. John Blake, who was buried at Swanton Abbott, Norfolk, 1875. Charlotte Varlo, at the Cemetery, 1858; Wm. Cooch Pillans, 1819; Francis Stone, architect and county surveyor for nearly thirty years,



1835; Allcock, 1821; Allcock (parish clerk), 1831; Allcock, 1819; Weaver, 1829; Allcock, 1834; Balltis (parish clerk), 1790; Balltis, 1722; Walmsley, 1760; Shildrake, 1784; Dixon, 1817; Foster (from the Poppingay), 1689; Fisher, 1764; Hill, 1710; Balltis, 1793; Riley, 1718; Hoyle, 1727; Morpew, 1814; Rayner, 1684; Elizabeth, w. of Chas. Marsh (dau. of Danl. Fromanteel, Mayor 1725), 1745; Margaret Marsh, second wife (widow of Danl. Meadows, M.D., late of Ipswich), 1766; Chas. Marsh, 1789; Wiggett, 1778; Griggs, 1685; Andrews, 1723; Cater, 1737; Maltby, 1758; Russell, 1730; Parke, 1732; Martin, 1698; Andrewes, 1673; Captain Lenard Glenne, 1683; Frances Gleane, d. of the Rev. Owen Hughes, A.M., late Chancellor of Bangor, 1741; Riveley, 1675; Alric, 1798; King, 1754; Morley, 1685; Greene, 1786; Irving, da. of Willm. Gordon of Embo, Bart., and of Dame Sarah, his wife, 1788; Christiana, another daughter, 1795. Sir William, who was born in 1736, was descended from a branch of the noble family of Huntley, and was a captain in the XIXth Regiment of the line. On the 13th June, 1760, he married Sarah, only daughter of Crosby Westfield, Esq., R.N., and died in 1804, aged 68. Sir Seton Gordon (the present Bart.) was born in 1845. Collings, 1729; B . . . (Blaxill), 1762; Skelton, 1692; Barton, date uncertain, slab and register disagree, the former gives 1693, the latter 1689; Balltis, 17-4; Preist, 1721; Huson, 1689; Grome, 1708; and Waffe, 1675.

*The Churchyard.* We can only give an alphabetical list, with one or two notes, of those to whom memorials still remain; many of these, we regret to say, are fast becoming illegible through the ravages of that ruthless destroyer, old father Time. The names recorded on those we have been able to decipher are<sup>1</sup>:—Abel,

<sup>1</sup> All are on the south side of the church, except when otherwise stated.

Akers, Ames, Artis, Back, Bailey, Baker, Bales, Barber, Beart, Beckwith (2) (north side), Brady, Brooke, Buck, Buckenham, Buddry, Buttifant, Buttivant, Carman, Chambers, Cocks (2), Cole (north side), Coleby, Coppin, 1711, Rector of Winfarthing (north side); Corbould (north side), Creed, Crockett, Dallada (north side), Denton, Dewing (north side), Everitt (north side),<sup>1</sup> Fabb, Fiddymont, Foulger, Fox, Frost, Fulcher, Gay (3), Gaze, Gills, Glynne (see Weldon), Hatt, Hogan, Horth, Ives, 1710-1714 (the earliest stone in the churchyard, north side), Ives again on the south side, Jarvis, Kiddell (north side), Ladbroke, Langham, Lea, Lubbock, Mann, Mitchell (2) (north side), Moore, Mott, Nasmith, Nickalls, Pointer, Plowright, Prick, Priest, Rand, Ritson, Rowling, Russell, Rust, Scales, Seppings, Shenfield, Slater, Sturgess (north side), Sutton, Symonds (3), Taylor, Trimmer (there were two memorials to the brothers of the late Vicar, but one was removed on the remains of the deceased being taken to Crostwick, at the time of the late Rev. Kirby Trimmer's interment. Waller, Warner, Wright, and Weldon [a mural monument on the west wall to John Weldon, Esq. (1759) and Mary his wife (1758)]. She was "third daughter of Sir Stephen Glynne, Bart., of Flintshire," who was an ancestor of Mrs. Gladstone, the wife of the Rt. Honble. W. E. Gladstone, M.P.

Amongst recorded memorials, not now to be found, may be mentioned one in the church, to Susanna, da. of Robert Houghton, who died in 1604; another to "Sarah Croshold, 1672."

" Her body lies in her grandfather's dust,  
Her soule is in Heaven with the Just."

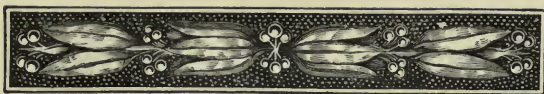
Her grandfather was Lucian Lawes (see p. 73.)

<sup>1</sup> The burial of Sarah Everitt, of this parish, on the 30th December, 1855, was the last which took place in our church or churchyard.

In the *churchyard*, altar tombs to families of the names of Nash, Francis, Arnam, and Mettyn have either disappeared or are too dilapidated to transcribe. Gawen Nash, buried here in 1706, was deprived of the living of Little Melton for not taking the oath to William III.; here also rest Mary Martineau, an ancestress of the authoress, buried in 1718; and Josiah Chorly, nearly thirty years minister of the Octagon Chapel, who died in 1719.

We here close our notes upon the church and churchyard, which since 1538 have witnessed about 4419 burials. In quitting this solemn subject let us all remember, in the quaint words of a monumental epitaph, long since lost to our church, "As we arr so be schall yee." "Hodie mihi cras tibi." The total number of births, marriages, and burials registered with us are about 11,359.





## CHAPTER VI.

### Rectors, Vicars, and Church Officers.

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#### RECTORS.

The College of St. Mary in the Fields (Chapel Field)  
appointed the following Rectors :—

- 1290. Rob. de Drayton.
  - 1324. Rob. atte Herne of Drayton.
  - 1326. Richard Kempe.
  - 1333. Walter de Ditchingham.
  - 1339. John de Banningham.
  - 1344. Rob. de Redgrave, by exchange with Banningham  
for the Precentorship of the College.
- 

#### VICARS AND PARISH CHAPLAINS.<sup>1</sup>

- 1350. Sir<sup>2</sup> Jeffery de Berney.
- 1390. Sir Peter de Welbourne, buried here.
- „ Tho. de Ipre.

<sup>1</sup> These were nominated by and had their dwelling at the College in the Fields till its dissolution.

<sup>2</sup> In pre-Reformation times the clergy were called “Sir” not “Rev.,” which latter is quite a modern title.

1456. Sir Will. Balle. Buried in the churchyard by the south door.
1457. Ralph Taylor (not in Blomefield) is mentioned in the will of Wm. Gybbes, Clerk, 1457, who gives him a legacy of 6s. 8d.
1492. Sir Jeffery Newman.
1558. Ric. Skippe. A Sir Ric. Skippe, chaplain, was buried in 1530 in the chancel of St. John de Sepulchre, Norwich.
1584. Thomas Melles. He had a daughter Anne, baptized here in 1584; and another, Agnes, in 1586. One Robert Melles was buried in 1577. For a quaint and curious entry in the *Mayoralty Court Books* for the latter year see p. 12. In 1587 he accepted the living of Rackheath Parva.
1604. Willm. Fugill. "Anno dni. 1604, marriages tempore Willmi. ffugill, curat<sup>i</sup> ibid," *ex reg.* In 1598 he was Vicar of Catton.
1627. Rob. Fugill.
1632. William Bridge, M.A., was lecturer here. He was a pious and learned man: many of his sermons still remain in print. To him, on a certain day, came Bishop Wren's order to read "the Book of Sports" on the next Sunday in church. He sat in dejection with the odious book before him, and resolved not to read it. Taking counsel with his brethren, he and several of them also refusing compliance, fled with sad hearts to Holland, where they spent many years, hoping for the days when they might return. Laud telling Charles I. that Bridge had fled, leaving two livings and a lectureship (one living that of St. Peter Hungate and the lectureship here), the king wrote against his



name, "we are well rid of him." Bridge, when the "glad tydings" of a "hopefull Parliament" reached him, subsequently returned to Yarmouth, from which place he had sailed, about 1642, and founded the first Independent church there. He had children baptized here (1632-1636) and was ultimately ejected from the Church of England by the rigid Act of Uniformity of Charles II.

1668. Benedict Riveley (not mentioned by Blomefield as vicar). Benedict, "the sonne of Mr. Benedict Riveley, Minester of God's word in this parish, buryed August y<sup>e</sup> 12, 1668." Susanna, dau. of the same "Minester of this Parish," buried 16th Aug., 1675. Within the altar rails is a slab to their memories (son and daughter of Benedict Riveley and Frances his wife). Riveley was appointed minister of St. Andrew's in 1678, and dying in 1694, aged 67, was buried in that church.
1681. Francis Morley. Mary, dau. of Mr. Francis Morley, buried 1681. He died in 1685, and was buried in the north aisle. A stone still remains, reading "Mr. Francis Morley, Minister of this Parish, dyed Aprill 5th, 1685, aged 48 years." Earlier he was assistant minister at St. Peter Mancroft.
1686. John Graile. Ane, a daughter of Mr. John Graile and Elizth. his wife, bapt. 1686, buried 1688; and John, a son, bapt. and bur. 1688 (2 days old). Graile was buried at Blickling, of which parish he was rector fifty-eight years, in 1732, aged 86. On his memorial he is described as "a learned and pious pastor."
1712. John Clark, D.D. He was also Dean of Sarum. His name first occurs here in the register of the baptism of a daughter Hannah in this year. In

the entry which records the baptism of another daughter, Frances, in 1714, he is described "Minister of this Parish." Altogether he had six children baptized here between 1712 and 1720 inclusive. His name for the last time occurs as a witness to the marriage of his daughter Mary to John Jacob of the Precincts of Salisbury Cathedral in 1754; having therefore been minister about forty-two years. He resided in a house on the east side of Tombland.

1737-8. Dr. Herring, afterwards successively Archbishop of York and Canterbury, officiated here as stipendiary curate or *locum tenens* for a short time.

1747-1750. Francis Blomefield, curate, from time to time signs the registers. The great Norfolk historian is too well known for it to be necessary for us to give an account of him, which if we attempted must transcend the limits of our work. He was afterwards Rector of Fersfield, and catching the small-pox in London, died at the early age of 46 years, and was buried in the chancel of his church.

1754. Henry Goodall, curate, occurs in the registers.

1756. John Greene, M.A. He died 11th Nov., 1786, "having been for thirty years loved and respected as minister of this parish." At a meeting held the day following in the vestry after service, the Parishioners unanimously agreed that the Pulpit and Desk should be hung with black cloth in testimony of their respect to his memory. Robert Marsh, S. Neville, churchwardens.

1787. William Taylor. He held other livings in the county, and was only minister for a few months.

- 1787, May 17th. William Papillon, who was instituted to Wymondham in the following year.
1788. Charles Sutton, D.D., vicar for upwards of fifty-three years. In the north aisle, under a window, is the following inscription, now hidden by the organ, "In memory of the Rev. Charles Sutton, D.D., more than 50 years Minister of this parish. The above window was restored by Charles Shaw, Commander R.N., in grateful memory of his kinsman, the Rev. Charles Sutton, D.D., late Minister of this Parish." In 1806 we find that Dr. Sutton was provided with a new scarlet hood lined with silk, which still remains in the vestry.
1842. Kirby Trimmer, M.A., the much-respected vicar for forty-five years, was a great botanist and the author of a work on *The Flora of Norfolk*. Dying at his residence in the Cathedral Close on the 9th Oct., 1887, he was buried at Crostwick Church, Norfolk, where is a large horizontal stone, having a cross in its centre, and around which are inscriptions to various members of the family. That to our late vicar reads as follows:—

Kirby Trimmer,

XLV years Vicar of St. George Tombland, Norwich.

Died IX<sup>th</sup> October, MDCCCLXXXVII, Aged LXXXIII.

1887. Henry Pickford, M.A., of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, who has most energetically led the way in every good work relative to the church and parish.

In closing this list of those who have ministered to the spiritual wants of our parish for upwards of six hundred years, we cannot but notice the extraordinary length of time many of them have been spared to minister, we

trust for good, amongst the parishioners. Without going beyond the Reformation, in which there may be unfilled gaps in our list, through imperfections or loss of records or otherwise, we note that since that date, a period of about 350 years, we have had fourteen ministers, including our present vicar. This gives an average of twenty-five years to each incumbent. Again, during the last 179 years, four vicars served the parish, 172 giving an average of forty-three years; these are Dr. Clark, 44; the Rev. J. Greene, 30; Dr. Sutton, 53; and the Rev. K. Trimmer, 45 years. It is a singular fact that the parish has not been honoured by a vicar's wife since the death of Mr. Greene in 1786, upwards of 100 years ago. We believe it has been therefore not inaptly termed "The Bachelor's Parish."

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#### CHURCHWARDENS.

Of these we can only give a meagre account, for the churchwardens' books prior to 1772 are lost. In 1553, Alexander Mather and Thomas Bathcom were churchwardens, and made a return of "the church goods" in the church. The former was M.P. for the City during the entire reign of Edward VI., and was one of ten aldermen who died of the plague in 1558. He was buried at SS. Simon and Jude (probably the nearest church to his residence, having regard to the contagion), where was a monumental brass (long since lost) to his memory. In 1559, Wm. Spratte and Peter Websscar were churchwardens; in 1609, Wm. Browne and Robert Hoath; and in 1618, Hothe and Thos. Nashe. From 1772 we have a complete list, James Alric and Stephen Dancer, being churchwardens in that



year; in 1779, Hewett Rand (Sheriff in 1769); 1781, Thomas Emerson (Sheriff in 1785, in which year he died). His colleague was Jeremiah Ives, Mayor in 1786; in 1783, David Columbine, who was Sheriff in 1772; in 1786, Syllas Neville, M.D.; in 1795, Edward Colman, Churchwarden and Sheriff of Norwich; in 1812, Anthony Hudson; and in 1821, Alderman Steward and W. S. Millard; and from 1826 to 1875 (fifty years), Francis John Blake; of those living, Messrs. Forrester, Allen, and Gray, we must say that one and all worthily filled the office; Mr. Forrester during a period of twenty-seven years. The churchwardens this year (1891-2), are Mr. H. W. Howes and Mr. E. Gray (the latter of whom has served the office for nine years, and is one of the most indefatigable and earnest of workers).

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#### PARISH CLERKS.

In Prideaux's *Churchwardens' Guide* we find that in early times priests often filled the office of Parish Clerk. This makes more intelligible the following extract from Dr. Tanner's Repertorium (MSS.) in the Bishop's Registry Office; which we find upon the cover of our second register book; upon it is written in a modern hand:—"In the year 1565, John Thurston was presented to the Rectory of Sall, by the assigns of Sir Roger Townshend; he had been Parish Clerk of St. George at Tombland, afterwards Curate of Edgefield and domestic Chaplain to Sir Christopher Heydon at Baconsthorp." Thurston had a son and daughter baptized here, respectively in 1551 and 1556.

In 1626, Robart Nash, parish clarke, was buried.

We cannot trace others till about a hundred years later.



- In 1727, Matthew Balltis. His slab, stating he died in 1757 and was thirty years clerk, remains at the west end of the nave.
1756. William Balltis (son of preceding), thirty-four years parish clerk, died in 1790, and lies buried in the south porch.
- 1790, Sept. 27th. Thomas Beckwith, chosen unanimously, buried here in 1795, and succeeded by Thomas Buttifant.
1805. John Alcock elected ; clerk for twenty-five years ; dying in 1831, he was buried in the south porch.
1831. John Patrick Sturgess. He filled the office faithfully for nearly fifty years, taking a great interest in everything connected with the parish, especially its church and history. He died in January, 1879, and rests at the Norwich Cemetery.
1879. Reginald Brett, the present clerk, to whom the writer takes this opportunity of offering his best thanks for the assistance which he has so kindly at all times rendered him, in giving him access to the registers, &c.

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#### SEXTONS.

1770. Adam Hewett, died aged 78, buried here. No record remains to shew when he was chosen. His successor was Abraham Hewett, who died in 1803, and was also interred here.
1803. John Alcock vacated this office on being appointed clerk in
- 1805, when Andrew Dewing was chosen sexton.
1814. William Dewing, his son, succeeded to the office, and the latter and other members of the family

are buried on the north side of the churchyard, where is a stone to their memory.

1843. William Palm Dewing, grandson of Andrew Dewing, elected.

1855. William Dewing, his son, was unanimously chosen.

It will be seen that the Dewing family held this office for four generations, during eighty-five years, for thirty-five of which the duties were worthily filled by its late occupier, who died on the 1st Oct., 1890, and was buried on the 6th of the same month, at the Norwich Cemetery. He was much respected, and a stone has been erected to his memory by the parishioners and friends of St. George Tombland.





## CHAPTER VII.

I.—The Charities.    II.—Men of Note.

III.—Old Inns.    IV.—Miscellaneous.



IN this, our closing chapter, we deal with one or two subjects which have not come within the scope of those preceding it.

### I.—THE CHARITIES.

Symonds' Charity has been previously alluded to; a fuller account will be found in the *Charities Commissioners' Report*, 1835.

Edward Squire, by will dated 30th Oct., 1818, directs his executors to make an investment in the funds in the names (amongst others) of the Minister and Churchwardens of St. George Tombland, sufficient to produce £5 per annum for each parish mentioned, one being our parish. This charity, so far as we are concerned, was augmented by a gift of Dr. Sutton about the year 1845. The dividends now amount to £5. 12s. 8d., and are given away by the Vicar and Churchwardens on Christmas Eve.

Sir Peter Seaman, making his will on the 22nd Dec., 1715, devised property to trustees in trust "to place out

apprentice two poor boys." St. George Tombland shares with five other parishes, and takes its turn.

*Maltby's Charity*.—The interest arising from the gift of the late Bishop of Durham (£100) is annually distributed at the discretion of the Vicar and Churchwardens. The distribution takes the form of a gift of coal to the poor.

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## II.—MEN OF NOTE.

Some of these have been alluded to in previous chapters, but there are one or two still calling for further notice; we take them in alphabetical order.

*John Crome*, the son of John and Elizabeth, better known as "Old Crome," was born on the 'Castle "Ditches" in this parish, on the 22nd and baptized on the 25th Dec., 1768. The father was a poor weaver, and the son afterwards became errand boy to Dr. Rigby, but having early shewn his artistic abilities he was apprenticed to a house and sign painter, and during his apprenticeship painted signs for inns and taverns. His progress attracted the notice of Sir W. Beechey, R.A., who helped him, as did also John Opie. Crome became a master of his art, and learned how to shew the beauties of the simplest objects in nature. He was Drawing Master at the Norwich Grammar School, and founded the Norwich Society of Artists in 1803; in 1805 the first provincial exhibition of pictures in England took place under its auspices. He died in 1821, aged only 52, and in the same year one hundred and eleven of his paintings were exhibited. He was buried at St. George Colegate, and a few years ago a marble tablet, bearing his bust and an appropriate inscription, was erected in

that church to his memory. It is erroneous, as has been stated, that Crome's pictures were not appreciated in his lifetime; it is known that he obtained as much as £100 for one, and £30 was not an uncommon price. In later years some have fetched over £1000.

*Richard Lubbock, M.D.*, was the son of Richard and Anne Lubbock of this parish. He was born on the 18th and bapt. here on the 29th June, 1760. Dr. Lubbock was an eminent physician and lived in St. Giles' Street, long possessing, we are told, "the public confidence to an unexampled degree." His early education was at the Norwich Grammar School; afterwards he was one of the first pupils under Dr. Rigby, who attended the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. He attained his degree at Edinburgh in 1784, with great credit, having distinguished himself by his treatise, *De Principio Sorbile*. He wrote several works, and died in Norwich in 1808, aged 49, after a long and painful illness, and is interred in Earlham churchyard.—*History of Norfolk*, Stacy, 1829, vol. ii., p. 1158.

*Edward Maltby, D.D.*, Bishop of Chichester, 1831, and of Durham, 1836, is said to have been born in this parish, and it is not improbable that he was so, as he bequeathed us a legacy of £100, and some of the Maltby family resided here during the greater portion of the last century. However, the Bishop was not baptized at St. George's; some of the baptismal registers of neighbouring parishes have also been searched without finding an entry relative thereto. He was educated at the Grammar School under Dr. Parr, and was considered "one of the greatest scholars of the age."

*Sylas Neville, M.D.*, resided for some time in this parish, and was churchwarden in 1786. He kept a minute and amusing diary, which states that he was "born of a good family, and bred up in affluence, and in



all the ideas of elegant life," and that he had an uncle who commanded a man-of-war. Neville was an excellent classical scholar, and a man of refined taste. At an early age he inherited a considerable fortune, but his habits were expensive, and he appears to have soon dissipated a large portion of it: Wearied of London life, he returned to Yarmouth, and in 1768 took a lease of Scratby Hall, Norfolk. Tiring of the country life in its turn, and alarmed at the rapid diminution of his fortune, having spent, he admits, four times his income in one year, he passed three winters at Edinburgh University, studying medicine, and taking his degrees in 1776 he went to London to walk the hospitals. For some years afterwards he travelled abroad, ultimately meeting Mr. Patteson of Norwich at Rome. Returning to Norfolk in 1781, he settled as a physician in our city. Being one of those clever men who never succeed in the dull business of life, he appears to have had more friends than patients. He died in the Close, Norwich, at an advanced age. In early life he was a staunch republican, for he writes in his diary, "July 3, [year not given]. This day being appointed for the wretched worshippers of royalty to go out of mourning, put myself into it for my much-regretted friend Mr. Barrett." He lived, not only to alter his opinions, but to veer round to the opposite extreme.

*Francis Stone*, Architect and County Surveyor for nearly thirty years, lived in Upper King Street, or perhaps we should say in the Conisford part of the parish, in 1818. During his surveyorship, he published views of most, if not all, of the Norfolk Bridges. The similarity of many of these must have rendered his work, we should think, somewhat monotonous; dying in 1835, he was buried in a vault in the church.

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## III.—OLD INNS AND TAVERNS.

Apart from those mentioned in previous pages, there were others which have disappeared. In 1587 Robert Grene was licensed to keep an inn called the "Queen's Hed." During the reign of James I., players were many times at "The White Horse," *near* Tombland. "1624, April 26. This day Wakefield brought into court a note, which he found fastened upon the gate of the house of Thomas Marcon, being the signe of the White Horse, nere Tombland, wherein was written. 'Here within this place, at one of the clock, shall be acted an excellent new comedy, called the Spanish Contract, by the Princess's servants, vivat rex.' Francis Wambut, the only one of the company the officer could find, was brought before the Mayor, and said they would play in spite of the court, and 'taxed Mr. Mayor very falsely and scandalously with untruths,' so he was sent to gaol, and liberated after a month and some correspondence with the Lord Chamberlain."—*Mayoralty Court Roll*. In 1775 there was "The Wilks Head," doubtless in honour of that sturdy republican, John Wilkes; and in the following year a "King's Head," possibly an "opposition shop." In 1775 also we have the Feathers and the Bells, and in 1784 the Leopard. The sites of these Inns we have not been able to trace, but as to the White Horse *see* p. 35.

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## IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

There are one or two entries in the *Churchwardens Account Books* which deserve a passing notice.

In 1772 the sanitary arrangements of our church began to be thought of, if not before ; it was then “ordered that for the future no person shall be buried within this church or chancel unless the corpse be inclosed in lead, and the Churchwardens and their successors are hereby directed not to permit or suffer the ground to be broken up or any grave made for burying any person within the said church or chancell until they are well satisfied that such corpse is intended to be inclosed in lead.” A few years ago all vaults, whether containing leaden coffins or not, were filled up.

*Perambulations*.—In the old days of perambulations, that is, when the bounds of the parish were beaten, the business appears to have been rather an expensive one, as is shewn by the following:—“1778, Feb. 27. Paid Wm. Trower’s Bill for the Feast at his House on the 15 May, 1777, the day of Perambulation, £10. 10s.” Sundry similar entries occur in other years. One item in the books strikes us as rather peculiar:—“1786, March 24. Paid expenses at Easter *next*, £2. 0s. 0d.

*Jubilee*.—On the 25th Oct., 1809, *we* (the Parish) celebrated the Jubilee. “A collection was made for the purpose of Giving a Bublick Dinner to the Poor of Roast Beef and Plumb Pudding, being the *fiftieth year* of the Raign of his Majesty King George the Third.

				£.	s.	d.
“Amount of Subscription	...	...	...	26	7	6
“Expended ...	...	...	...	21	12	3
				<hr/>		
“Balance ...	...	...	...	£4	15	3”
				<hr/>		

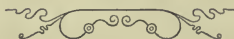
Since then, we have had another Jubilee, that of our present Queen, which we celebrated on the 28th June, 1887. We had not a dinner, but a tea: it was not *Bublick*, but *Parochial*, and if the writer remembers correctly, we also had "*Roast Beef and Plumb Pudding*."

We believe our parish has been noted for the longevity of its inhabitants; selecting promiscuously twenty-two years from the registers (1763-1784 inclusive) we find seventy-eight burials of persons of the age of seventy and upwards, the aggregate number of years they lived was 6039 (an average of more than seventy-seven years each). Had these seventy-eight preceded each other they would take us back to 144 years anterior to the recognized date of the creation.

We must now conclude our account of "St. George Tombland, Past and Present." In doing so we beg to tender our best thanks to the ladies and gentlemen (375 in number) who have so kindly subscribed to our work, and trust that they will, one and all, find something which will either interest or amuse.



Finis.





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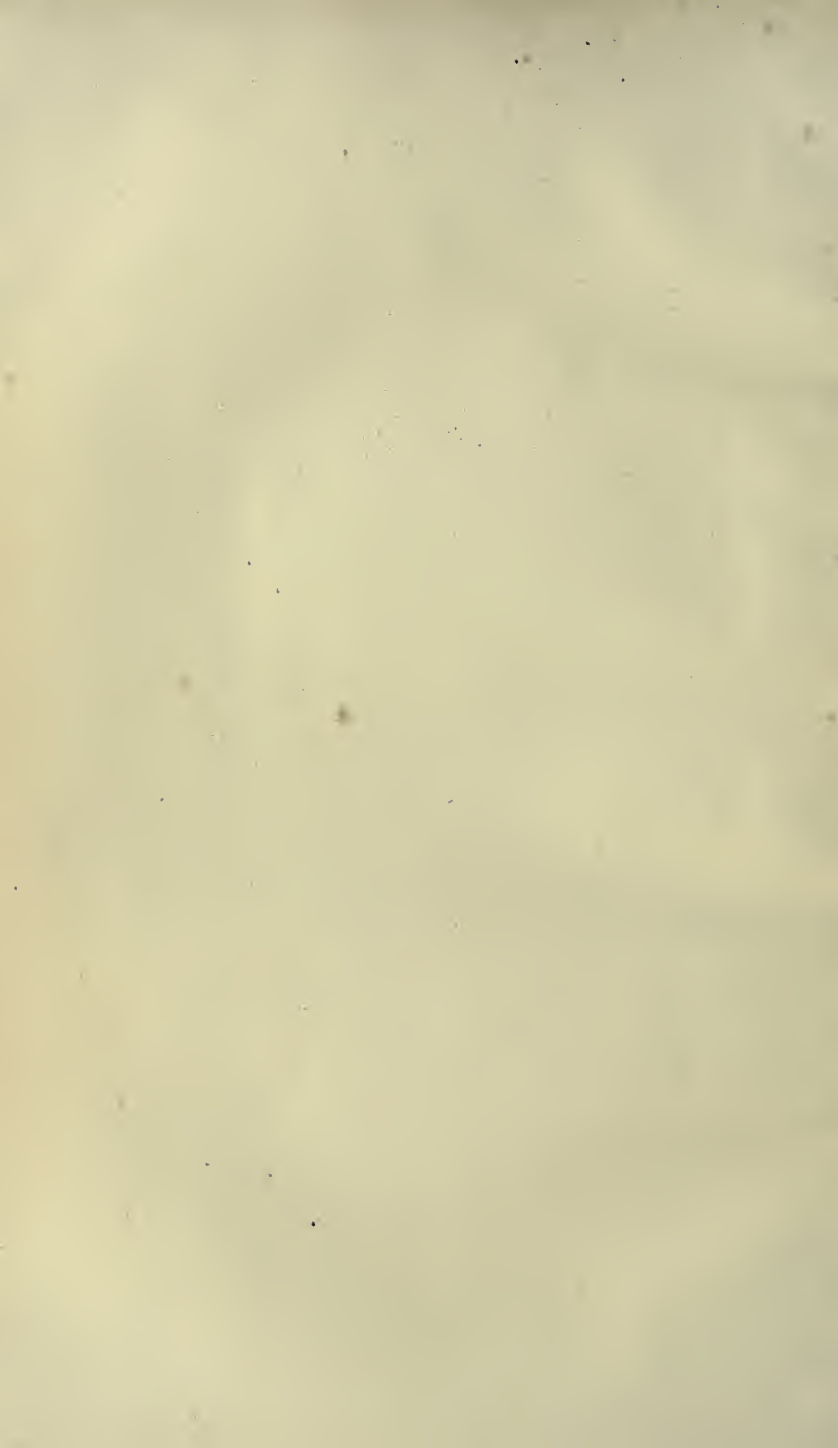
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